Takahashi-san
is listening.
高橋さんが聞いている。

高橋さんが聞いている。5

北欧 ゆう

Takahashi-san Is Listening.

Yu Hokuo

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CHAPTER 46: THE FLAMING BALL AND ENA TAKAHASHI AND... ——→ 017

CHAPTER 47: THE FLAMING BALL AND SORA KITAGAMI AND... ——→ 033

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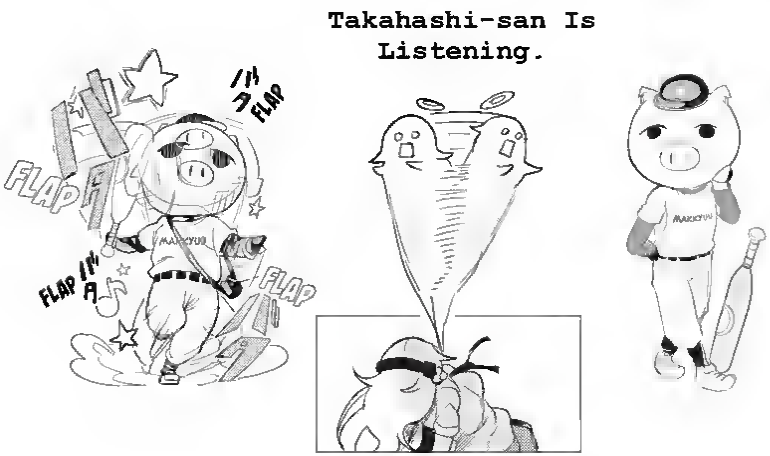
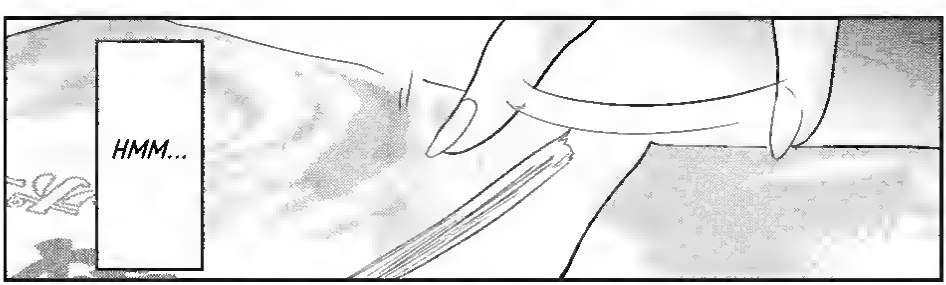


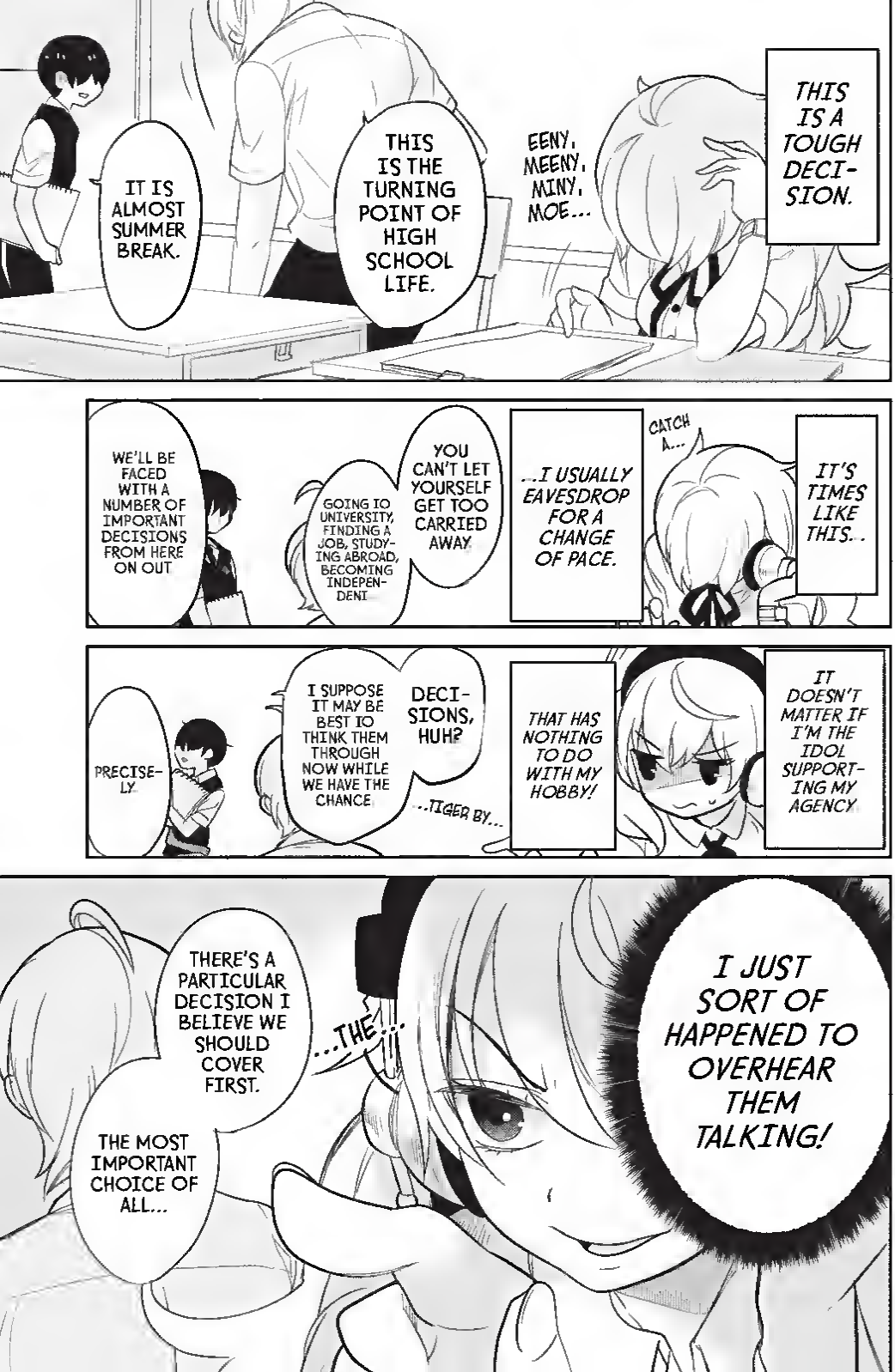
AS AN IDOL, I, ENA TAKAHASHI...
...REALIZE THAT I'M THE BREADWINNER FOR OUR OFFICE.
THAT MEANS I NEED TO SUPPORT EVERYONE!
IT'S ABOUT TIME, ENA.
I MEAN IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO CHOOSE YOUR NEXT SOLO GIG..
...OR SO I WAS THINKING. YOU'RE ABOUT AT THAT LEVEL.
CHAPTER 45
TO THE SEA, FOR THE ULTIMATE DECISION
RIGHT! IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT ME.
SO, TO START...

WHAM
PROPOSAL
企画書
ENA TAKAHASHI'S
高橋エナの
激辛
レポート
FIERY HOT REPORT
...AND THIS.

BAM
PROPOSAL
企画書
ENA TAKAHASHI'S
高橋エナの
猛獣
ツアー
SAVAGE BEAST TOUR
WE HAVE THIS...

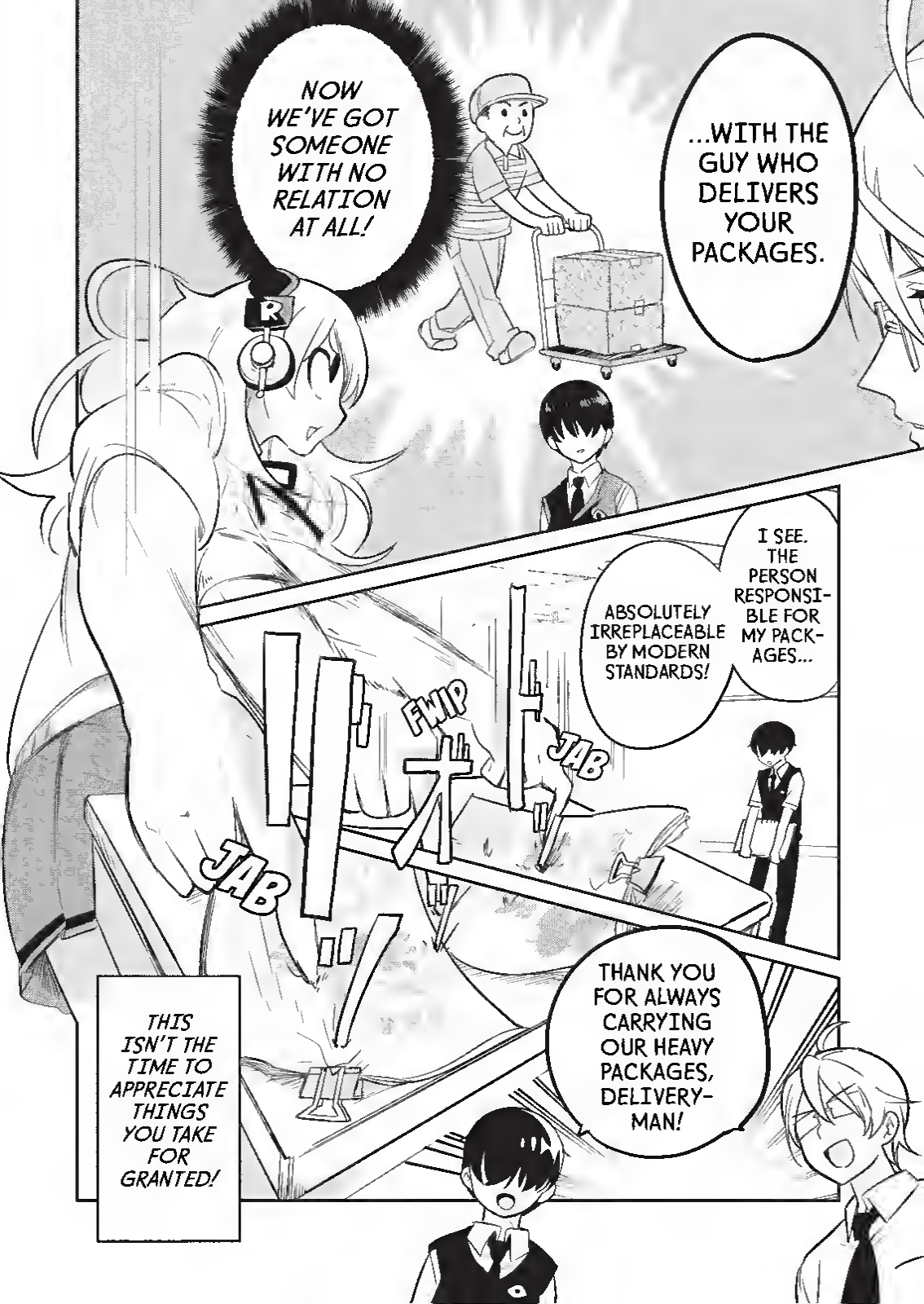
DO I ACTUALLY HAVE TO WANT TO DO ONE OF THEM?
NOW, WHICH DO YOU WANT TO DO?


HMM...


THIS IS A TOUGH DECI-SION.
EENY, MEENY, MINY, MOE...
THIS IS THE TURNING POINT OF HIGH SCHOOL LIFE.
IT IS ALMOST SUMMER BREAK.
IT'S TIMES LIKE THIS..
CATCH A...
...I USUALLY EAVESDROP FOR A CHANGE OF PACE.
YOU CAN'T LET YOURSELF GET TOO CARRIED AWAY.
GOING TO UNIVERSITY, FINDING A JOB, STUDY-ING ABROAD, BECOMING INDEPEN-DENT
WE'LL BE FACED WITH A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT DECISIONS FROM HERE ON OUT
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF I'M THE IDOL SUPPORT-ING MY AGENCY
THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH MY HOBBY!
...TIGER BY...
DECI-SIONS, HUH?
I SUPPOSE IT MAY BE BEST TO THINK THEM THROUGH NOW WHILE WE HAVE THE CHANCE
PRECISE-LY
I JUST SORT OF HAPPENED TO OVERHEAR THEM TALKING!
...THE...!
THERE'S A PARTICULAR DECISION I BELIEVE WE SHOULD COVER FIRST.
THE MOST IMPORTANT CHOICE OF ALL...

SO YOU JUST BLEW OFF WORKING AND STUDYING FOR THAT?
LET'S START BY THINKING IT THROUGH.
WHO WOULD YOU CHOOSE TO SAVE? IT'S THE ULTIMATE ULTIMATUM.
IF YOU FIND YOURSELF IN A SITUATION WHERE YOU CAN ONLY SAVE EITHER YOUR LOVER OR YOUR MOTHER...
THUNK
AT LEAST I CAN SEE YOU HAVE GOOD INTENTIONS.
THEY SAY SURVIVAL IS ALL ABOUT PREPAREDNESS, AFTER ALL.
LUXURY CRUISE LINER! EXPLOSION! LIFEBOAT!
THAT'S WAY TOO SPECIFIC!

BUT I DON'T HAVE A LOVER.
SAME HERE.
IT MAKES IT HARD TO IMAGINE THE PREMISE.
YEAH, THAT'S TRUE.
SAME GOES FOR ME. I MEAN, YOU KNOW...
HONESTLY, I DON'T REALLY KNOW MUCH ABOUT HAVING A LOVER.
IF HE HOLLERS...
HOW ABOUT...
THEN ANOTHER RELATIVE.
OH, WHAT A RELIEF.
MOTHER
RELATIVE
BUT YOU MEAN A DISTANT RELATIVE, RIGHT?
...IF WE SWITCH THE LOVER FOR A FRIEND?
N-NOW WE HAVE A PROB-LEM!
MOTHER
I DON'T WANT TO BE COMPARED TO YOUR MOTHER.
BUT NOW THE MOTHER CLEARLY OUT-WEIGHS THE OTHER.
THAT'S TRUE.
...LET HIM...
THEN WE'LL REPLACE YOUR MOTHER...


NOW WE'VE GOT SOMEONE WITH NO RELATION AT ALL!
...WITH THE GUY WHO DELIVERS YOUR PACKAGES.
I SEE. THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR MY PACKAGES...
ABSOLUTELY IRREPLACEABLE BY MODERN STANDARDS!
FLIP
JAB
JAB
THANK YOU FOR ALWAYS CARRYING OUR HEAVY PACKAGES, DELIVERY-MAN!
THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO APPRECIATE THINGS YOU TAKE FOR GRANTED!

TH-THEY'RE ABANDONING THEIR RELATIVE.
IT'S OKAY NOW, DELIVERY-MAN!
LET'S...
LET'S TRY AGAIN...
HMM, WAIT A SECOND.
I THINK WE'VE MADE THE CHOICE UNFAIR AGAIN.
IS THAT REALLY ENOUGH OF A REASON TO PRIORITIZE HIM?
AND WE SEE THE DELIVERY MAN FAIRLY OFTEN.
THANKS FOR USING US AGAIN.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
RELATIVE
AFTER ALL, WE ONLY OCCASIONALLY SEE OUR RELATIVES.
ABOUT TODAY'S FEATURED PRODUCT OR SOMETHING?
THEN I THINK IT'S TIME WE HAVE A TALK WITH THE DELIVERY-MAN...
THANKS.
I THINK WE HAD BEST FIND A MORE REASONABLE COMPARISON

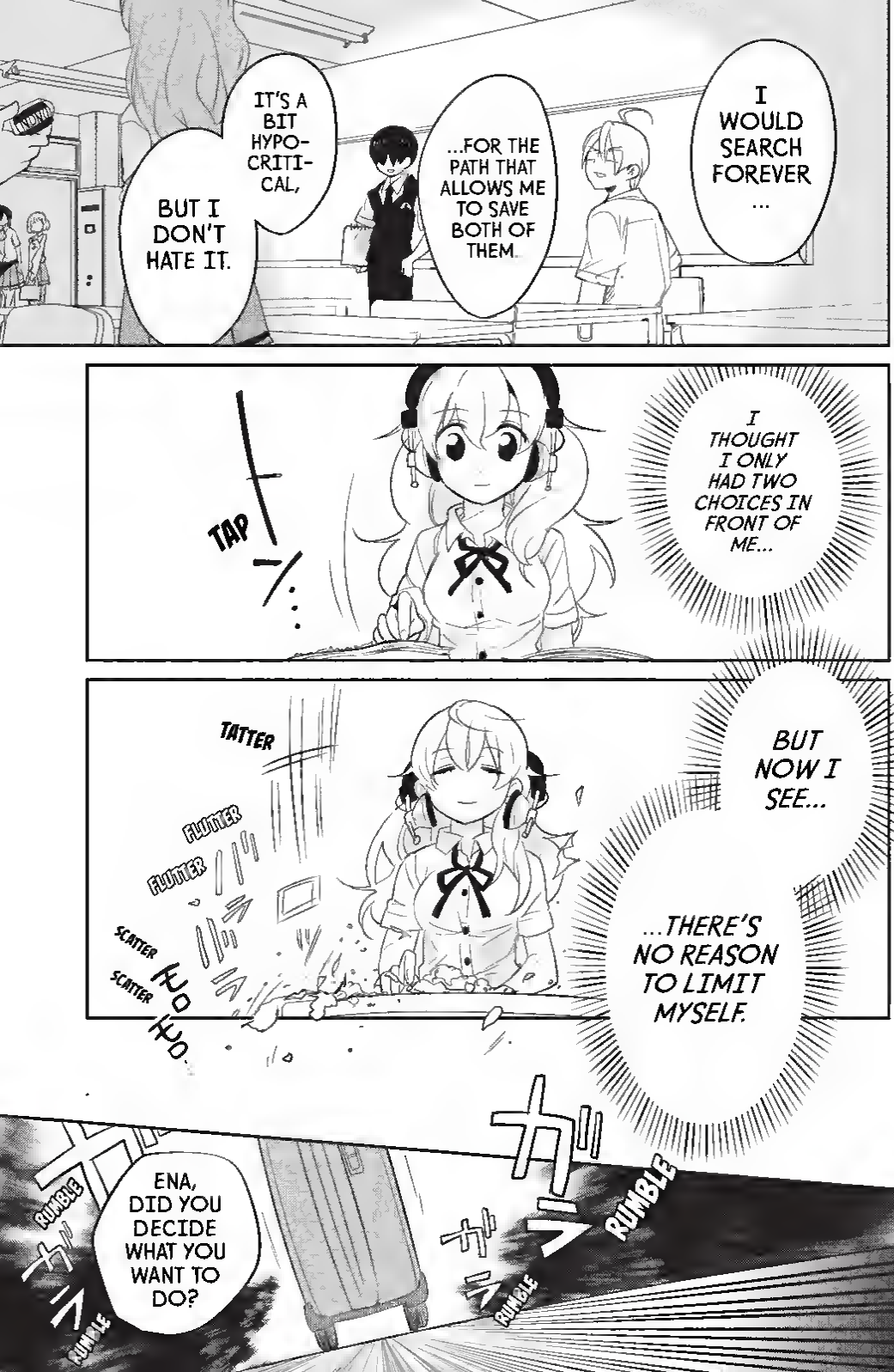
...ABOUT HIS DOLLY!
WAY TO SLIM THINGS DOWN!
KA-FWAP
WHAP!
OH, THE DOLLY? SO CHOOSING BETWEEN THE DOLLY AND THE RELATIVE...
I MEAN, THE CART IS CONVENIENT AND ALL.
YES, BUT THAT'S ABOUT IT!
NO, MI-KAGE.
RELATIVE
NO MATTER HOW CONVENIENT, IF IT COMES DOWN TO A DOLLY AND A PERSON, YOU'D HAVE TO SAVE THE PERSON!
EXACTLY! THAT'S WHAT I'M SAYING.

NOW IT'S A MATCH BETWEEN TWO INANIMATE OBJECTS.
LET'S GO WITH A FRESH, JUICY LOQUAT.
MY RELATIVES ARE FARMERS SO... HMM...
IS THIS REALLY GOING TO WORK IF YOU KEEP TRIVIALIZING THEM?
I SEE. THEN WE'LL HAVE TO DOWNGRADE THIS ONE NEXT.
RELATIVE
EITHER ONE
YEAH, THAT'S A BIASED DISTINCTION.
I'VE ONLY GOT A PLAIN OLD DOLLY HERE.
DON'T YOU THINK IT'S UNFAIR TO SPECIFY THAT IT'S FRESH AND JUICY?
THAT JUST CHANGES THE BIAS!
UNDERSTOOD.
THEN IT'S A DRIED OUT LOQUAT.
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO GO THAT FAR.
ALLOW ME TO COMPENSATE.

IT'S A NEARLY BROKEN DOLLY.
NOW IT'S JUST A MATTER OF WHICH ONE'S WORSE!
SHOOM
I THINK WE'VE FINALLY FOUND A GOOD BALANCE.
THEN WE CAN FINALLY TACKLE THE QUESTION AT HAND, NARA-KUN
WHO CARES ABOUT EITHER FROM THE GET GO?!
どっちもいらない?
EITHER ONE IS REALLY OKAY
THE DRIED OUT LOQUAT AND THE NEARLY BROKEN DOLLY...
WHEN THE TIME COMES TO THROW ONE OF THEM OFF THE LIFEBOAT...
VSSHH VSSHH VSSHH
VSSHH
VSSHH
VSSHH

SERIOUSLY, WHO WANTS EITHER OF THEM?
TELL ME, WHICH WOULD YOU SAVE?
I WOULD ...
...SAVE THEM BOTH!
HUH?!

YOU CAN'T EVEN CHOOSE ONE OF THE TWO?
EENY, MEENY...?
HMM...
ACTING PRETTY COOL THERE, AREN'T YOU, NARA-KUN?
THE DRIED OUT LOQUAT MIGHT BE LIKE DRIED FRUIT.
IT COULD POSSIBLY STILL BE EDIBLE.
THE NEARLY BROKEN DOLLY COULD ALSO BE USED AGAIN IF IT WERE REPAIRED.
AS IF I COULD CHOOSE TO THROW ONE OF THE TWO AWAY...


I WOULD SEARCH FOREVER ...
...FOR THE PATH THAT ALLOWS ME TO SAVE BOTH OF THEM.
IT'S A BIT HYPO-CRITI-CAL,
BUT I DON'T HATE IT.
TAP
I THOUGHT I ONLY HAD TWO CHOICES IN FRONT OF ME...
TATTER
FLUTTER
FLUTTER
SCATTER
SCATTER
BUT NOW I SEE...
...THERE'S NO REASON TO LIMIT MYSELF.
ENA, DID YOU DECIDE WHAT YOU WANT TO DO?
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

THAT'S THE ENA I KNOW AND LOVE!
I'LL DO BOTH!
RUMBLE
RUMBLE RUMBLE
NOW, TO ENA TAKAHASHI'S SAVAGE BEAST TOUR DONE WHILE EATING FIERY HOT FOOD!
YES!
DID YOU ALREADY PREDICT WHAT I WAS GOING TO SAY?
SAE-JIMA!
ONWARD!
North Wing

English Digital Edition
Chapter 045

Takahashi-san is listening.
高橋さんが聞いている。
Yu Hokuo

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is listening.
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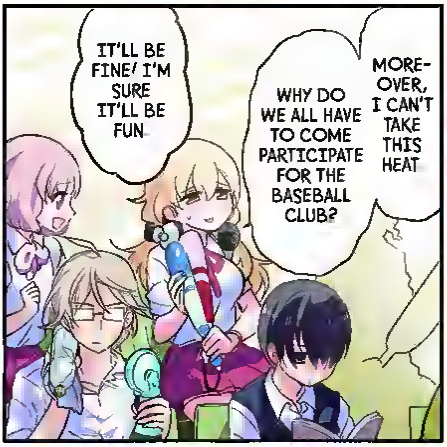
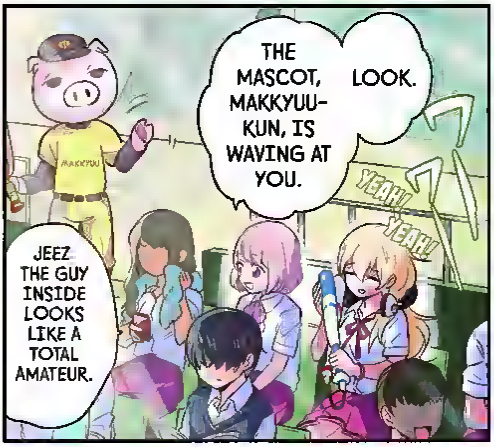
ASEBALL STADIUM
球場
ROOOAR
ENA-CHII, YOU DON'T SEEM VERY EXCITED.
UGH..
CHAPTER 46

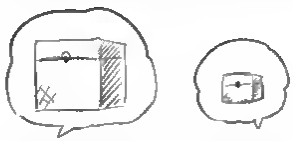

IT'LL BE FINE! I'M SURE IT'LL BE FUN.
WHY DO WE ALL HAVE TO COME PARTICIPATE FOR THE BASEBALL CLUB?
MORE-OVER, I CAN'T TAKE THIS HEAT


LOOK.
THE MASCOT, MAKKYUU-KUN, IS WAVING AT YOU.
YEAH! YEAH!
JEEZ. THE GUY INSIDE LOOKS LIKE A TOTAL AMATEUR.

YOU CAN'T LOSE TO THE HEAT! LET'S CHEER WITH ALL WE'VE GOT, OKAY?

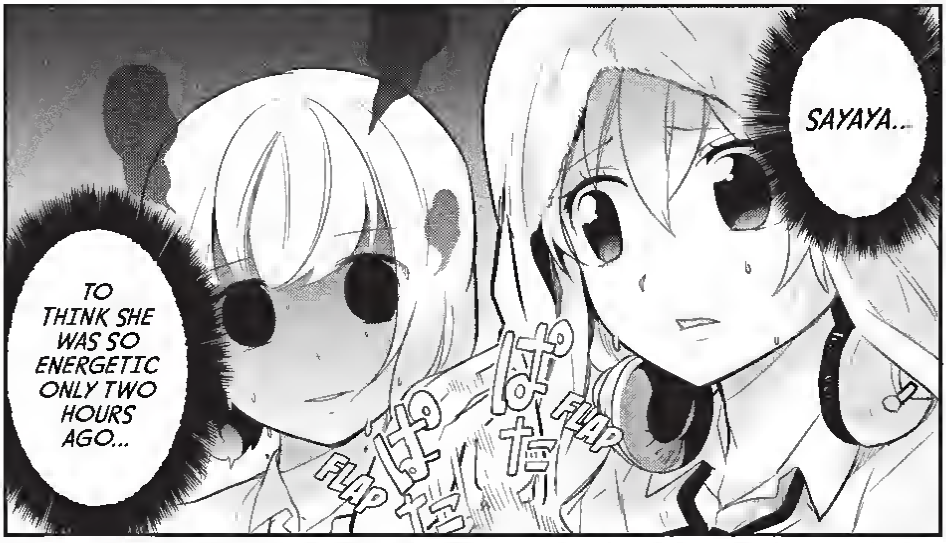
CHAPTER 46
THE FLAMING BALL AND ENA TAKAHASHI AND...

THE SPARROW IS OFFERING YOU A PRESENT.



Q: THERE ARE TWO PRESENTS TO CHOOSE FROM:
ONE IN A BIG BOX AND ONE IN A LITTLE BOX.
WHICH BOX DO YOU THINK HAS THE BETTER PRESENT?

ENA TAKAHASHI,
10 YEARS OLD



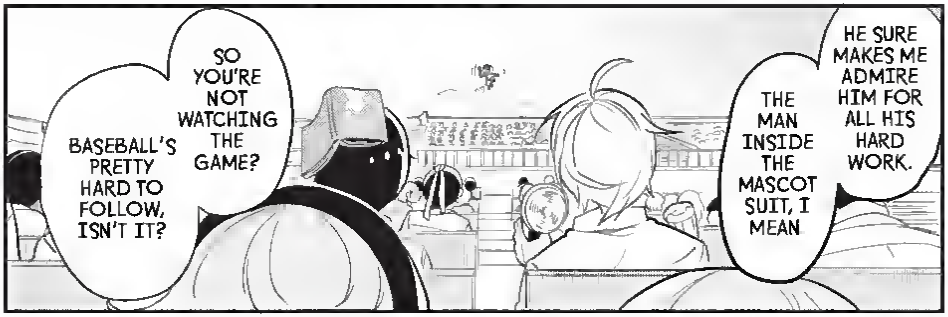
A-ARE YOU OKAY?
HERE, IT'S YOUR DRINK. YOU BOUGHT IT FROM THE VENDING MACHINE, REMEMBER?
Y-YEAH...
I REMEMBER BUYING IT, BUT I DON'T REMEMBER WHAT I BOUGHT ANYMORE...
EVERYONE ELSE IS COMPLETELY WIPED OUT TOO.
I CAN'T BLAME THEM IN THIS HEAT.
UGH...
ERGH...

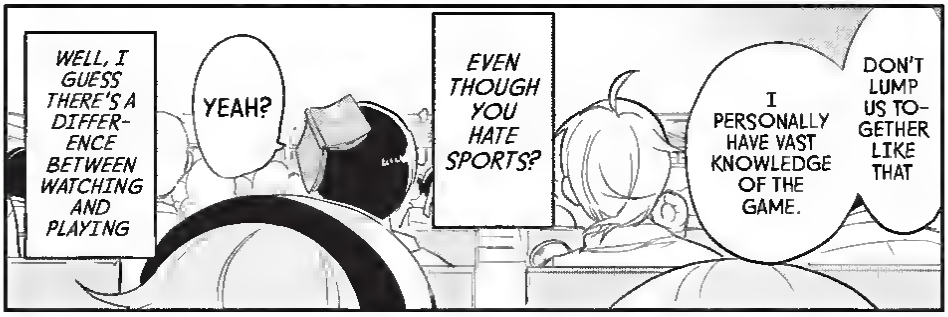
THIS CLASS IS ALREADY DONE FOR.

WAIT...
SHIK SHIK
ICE

IF THAT'S THE CASE...
YEAH.
IN ANY EVENT, YOU SURE ARE FOCUSED ON WHAT'S HAPPENING DOWN THERE, NARA-KUN
THEY STILL HAVE THE STRENGTH TO TALK!
YUP.
BEING WELL-PREPARED MEANS NO WORRIES.

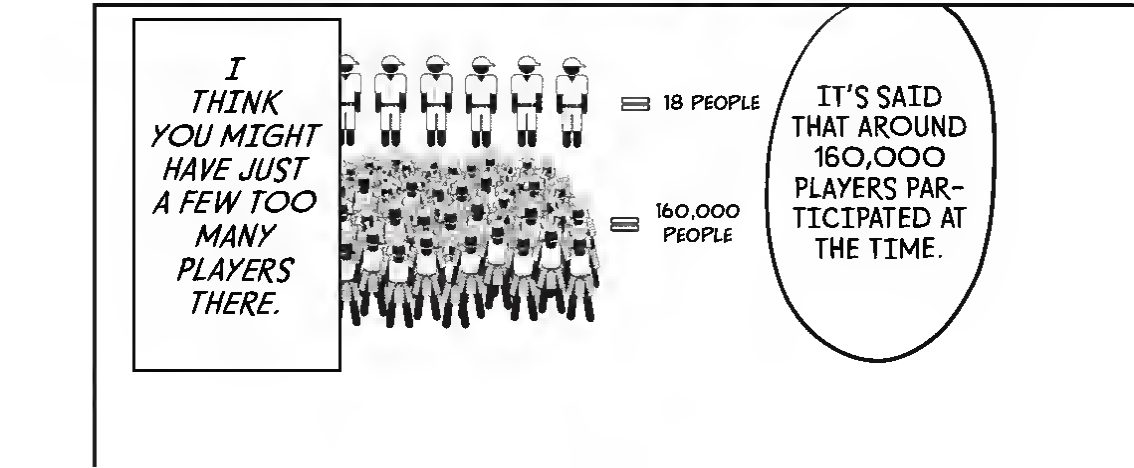
I DID JUST SORT OF HAPPEN TO OVERHEAR THEM AFTER ALL.
THEY CAN AFFORD TO SPARE SOME OF THAT ENERGY BY LETTING ME EAVESDROP ON THEM!


HE SURE MAKES ME ADMIRE HIM FOR ALL HIS HARD WORK.
THE MAN INSIDE THE MASCOT SUIT, I MEAN
SO YOU'RE NOT WATCHING THE GAME?
BASEBALL'S PRETTY HARD TO FOLLOW, ISN'T IT?


DON'T LUMP US TOGETHER LIKE THAT
I PERSONALLY HAVE VAST KNOWLEDGE OF THE GAME.
EVEN THOUGH YOU HATE SPORTS?
YEAH?
WELL, I GUESS THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WATCHING AND PLAYING

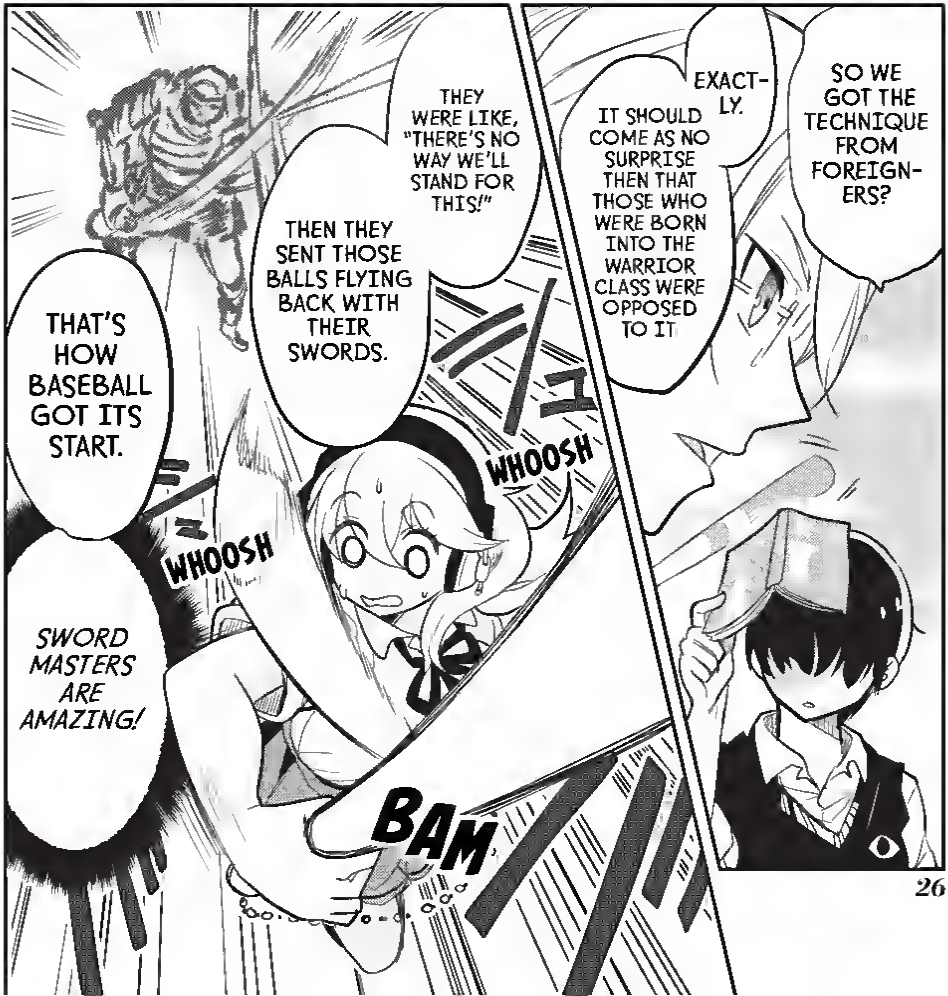
FOR EXAMPLE...
DO YOU KNOW THE ORIGINS OF BASEBALL?
I WONDER... MAYBE ANCIENT ROME OR SOMETHING?
I'LL GIVE YOU A HINT.
IT'S GOES DOWN IN HISTORY AS A FAMOUS WAY TO DO BATTLE.
A TEAM BATTLE!
I REALLY ONLY KNOW JAPANESE HISTORY
EVEN THEN, I ONLY KNOW THE MAJOR EVENTS
I GOT IT! IT COMES FROM...

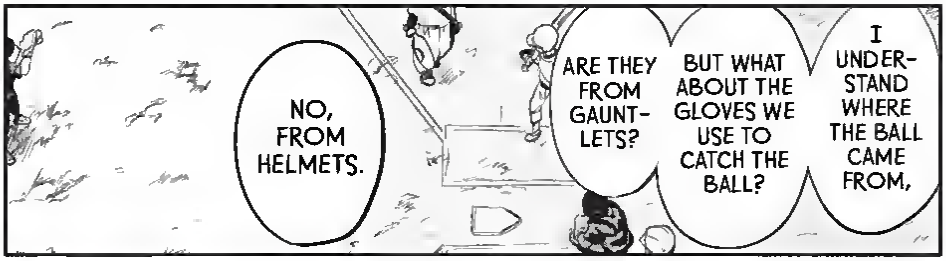
THE BATTLE OF SEKI-GAHARA!
WELL, THAT IS A MAJOR EVENT IN JAPANESE HISTORY.
INDEED, THE GREATEST BATTLE OF THE SEN-GOKU PERIOD!
ACCORD-ING TO HISTORI-CAL RECORD ...


I THINK YOU MIGHT HAVE JUST A FEW TOO MANY PLAYERS THERE.
18 PEOPLE
160,000 PEOPLE
IT'S SAID THAT AROUND 160,000 PLAYERS PAR-TICIPATED AT THE TIME.

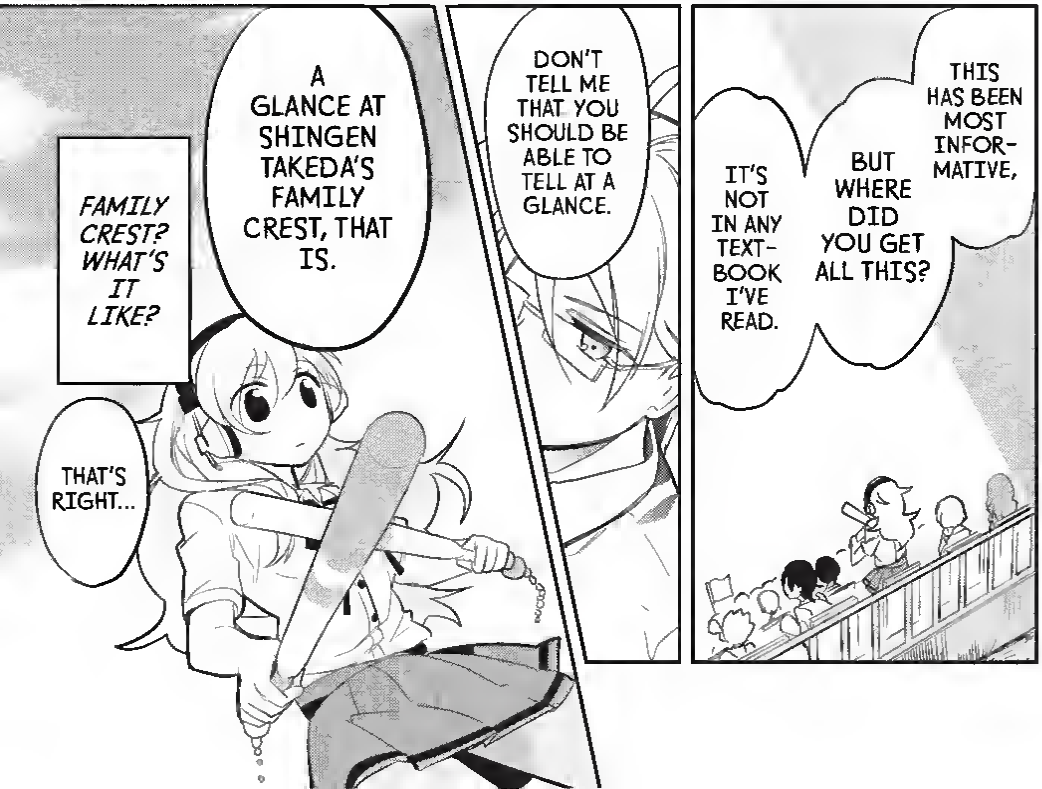
I SEE YOUR HISTORICAL KNOWLEDGE IS LACKING, MIKAGE.
THAT'S RIGHT, THAT'S RIGHT. WHERE DO THE BAT AND BALL COME INTO THIS?
I THOUGHT THEY FOUGHT USING SWORDS AND SPEARS.
BUT WARRIORS BACK THEN...
FLAP
FLAP
WHY DO YOU THINK THAT WHEN THE BALL IS THROWN IN SPORTS MANGA...
...THAT IT'S OFTEN DEPICTED ENGULFED IN FLAMES?
HUH? ISN'T THAT JUST BECAUSE IT LOOKS COOL?
ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL ME THAT IT'S ALL...
...AN ATTEMPT TO BE LOYAL THE EVENTS OF THE SENGOKU PERIOD?
PRECISELY!

BUT THAT'S A BULLET, NOT A BALL!
IT WAS HISTORY'S VERY FIRST STRAIGHT AND TRUE FASTBALL.
IT'S HOMAGE TO THE MATCH-LOCK!


SO WE GOT THE TECHNIQUE FROM FOREIGN-ERS?
EXACT-LY.
IT SHOULD COME AS NO SURPRISE THEN THAT THOSE WHO WERE BORN INTO THE WARRIOR CLASS WERE OPPOSED TO IT
THEY WERE LIKE, "THERE'S NO WAY WE'LL STAND FOR THIS!"
THEN THEY SENT THOSE BALLS FLYING BACK WITH THEIR SWORDS.
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
THAT'S HOW BASEBALL GOT ITS START.
SWORD MASTERS ARE AMAZING!
BAM


NO, FROM HELMETS.
ARE THEY FROM GAUNTLETS?
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE GLOVES WE USE TO CATCH THE BALL?
I UNDERSTAND WHERE THE BALL CAME FROM,

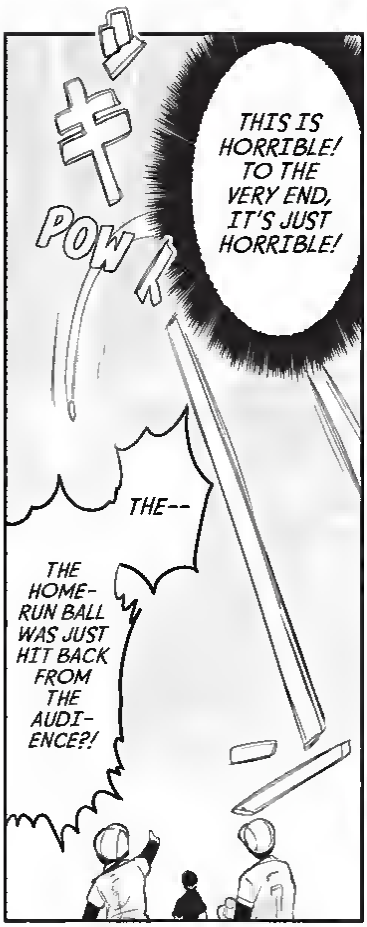
SWORD MASTERS ARE CHEAP!
WHAT A WASTE!
WHAT A WASTE!
IRON WAS A VALUABLE COMMODITY, AFTER ALL.
PLAYERS AIMED TO CATCH RETURNED BALLS WITH THEIR HELMETS.


FAMILY CREST? WHAT'S IT LIKE?
A GLANCE AT SHINGEN TAKEDA'S FAMILY CREST, THAT IS.
THAT'S RIGHT...
DON'T TELL ME THAT YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO TELL AT A GLANCE.
IT'S NOT IN ANY TEXTBOOK I'VE READ.
BUT WHERE DID YOU GET ALL THIS?
THIS HAS BEEN MOST INFORMATIVE,

WELCOME TO SENGOKU-STYLE EPIC BASEBALL!
IT LOOKS LIKE FIRST, SECOND, THIRD AND THEN HOME BASE!
SHINGEN TAKEDA'S FAMILY CREST
OH! NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT...
IT LOOKS LIKE THIS!
SHWIP

HE'S FULL OF IT! THE TAKEDA FAMILY ARE TURNING IN THEIR GRAVES.
CRACK
AFTER ALL, HE MADE IT HIS CREST.
HE MUST HAVE REALLY LIKED BASEBALL.

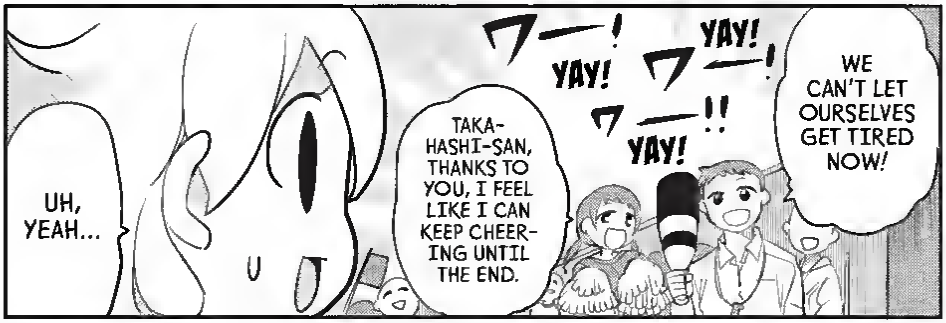
I'M GLAD I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ABOUT BASEBALL TODAY.
CHEER
HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL PLAYERS AREN'T BAD EITHER.
IT MIGHT NOT BE BAD TO GO THROUGH LIFE SWINGING A BAT SHOUTING LIKE A SAMURAI.
"I'LL CUT YOU DOWN IF YOU OFFEND ME!"
THAT'S JUST CRAZY TALK.
INDEED.
POW
CHEER
I'M HAPPY TO SEE THAT YOU'VE DEVELOPED AN UNDERSTANDING OF BASEBALL AS WELL.
NOW I'LL SHARE THE ORIGINS OF THE BAT.


THIS IS HORRIBLE! TO THE VERY END, IT'S JUST HORRIBLE!
POW
THE--
THE HOME-RUN BALL WAS JUST HIT BACK FROM THE AUDI-ENCE?!

WHO MANAGED TO PULL OFF SUCH A STUNT?
THAT GIRL?!

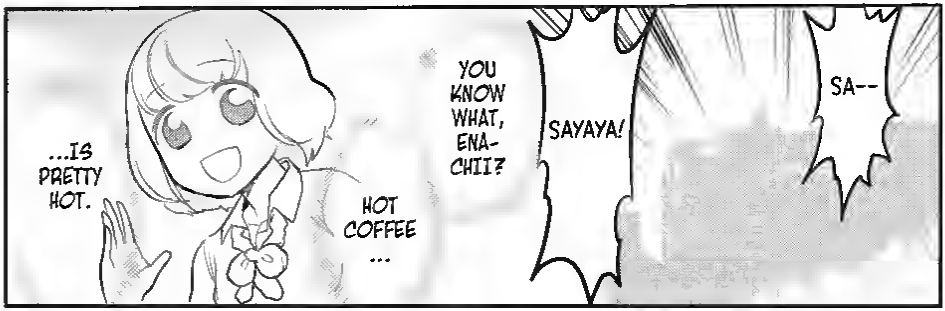
IT COMES FROM THE SWING OF A DRAWN SWORD.
WHAM
HOW DARE YOU CRACK SUCH AN OBVIOUS JOKE NOW?

CHEER
アアアァ。。
AMAZ-ING!
WE'VE ALL WIT-NESSED A MIRACLE TODAY!
EVERYONE HERE IS JUST AS EXCITED AS SHE IS NOW!
THAT WAS A HOME-RUN TO UNITE THE STADI-UM!
HA HA...


ワー!
YAY!
ワー!
YAY!
ワー!!
YAY!
WE CAN'T LET OURSELVES GET TIRED NOW!
TAKA-HASHI-SAN, THANKS TO YOU, I FEEL LIKE I CAN KEEP CHEER-ING UNTIL THE END.
UH, YEAH...

I-IT LOOKS LIKE EVERYTHING RESOLVED ITSELF SOMEHOW.
I'M SURE EVEN SAYAYA...
ENA-CHII!
THAT WAS AMAZ-ING!

BURNING
HOT
COFFEE


...IS PRETTY HOT.
HOT COFFEE ...
YOU KNOW WHAT, ENA-CHII?
SAYAYA!
SA--

DID YOU JUST COME BACK FROM CHEERING EVERYONE ON AT THE STADIUM?
I STILL FEEL POWERLESS AFTER NOT BEING ABLE TO SAVE ONE PERSON
EVEN IF I HAVE THE POWER TO UNITE AN ENTIRE STADIUM...

English Digital Edition
Chapter 046

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Yu Hokuo

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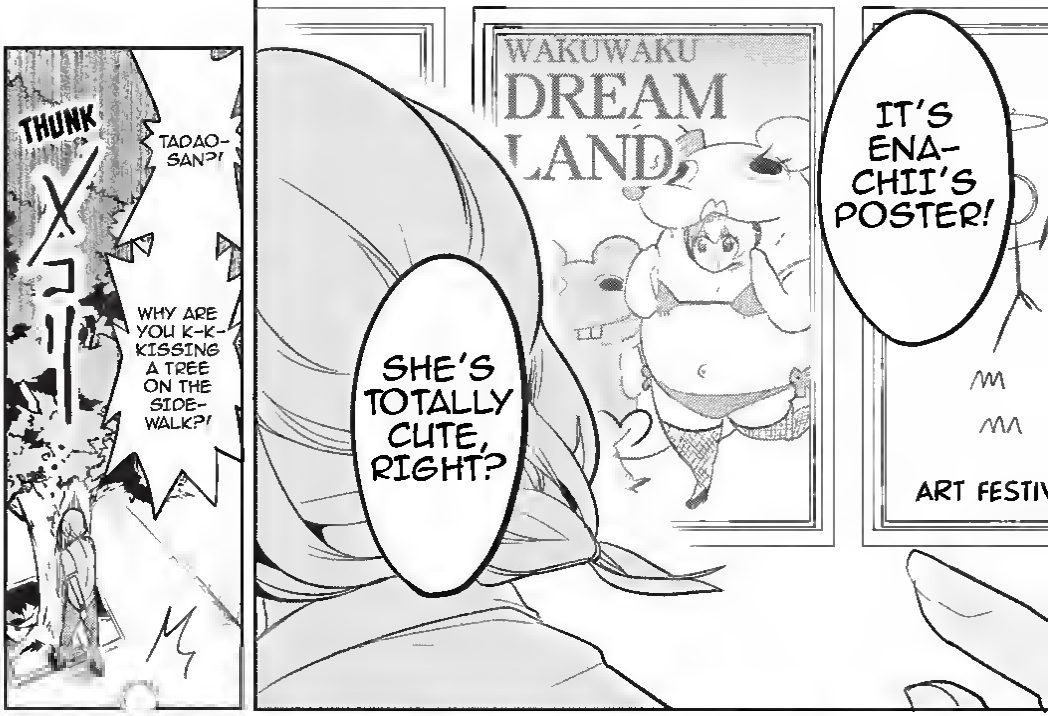
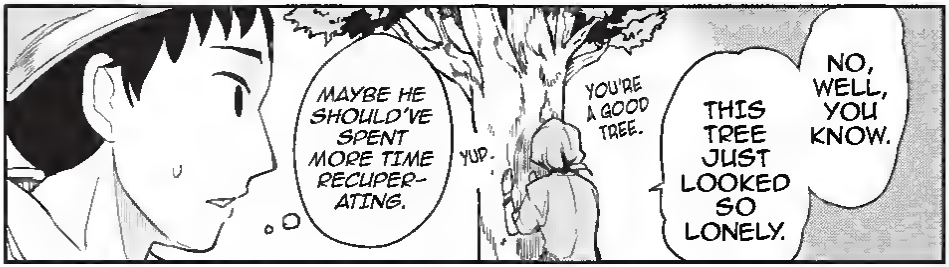
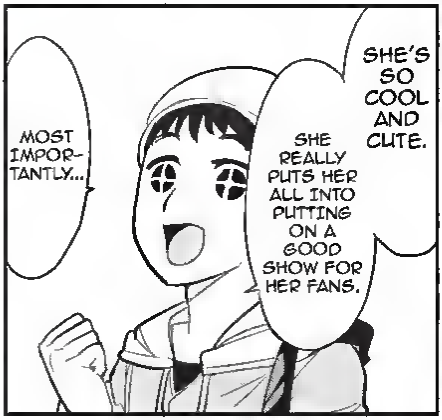
Takahashi-san
is listening.
高橋さんが聞いている。

A LITTLE BIT BEFORE ENA TAKAHASHI GOES TO THE GAME...
TADAO... SORA-SAN, I WAS JUST THINKING I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU AROUND LATELY.
I HEARD YOU WERE RECUPERATING ON A SOUTHERN ISLAND
HMPH...
ART FESTIVAL
THE SUPER POPULAR AND SUPER HOT DJ, SORA KITAGAMI (REAL NAME. TADAO OOTA)
I WANTED TO PUT SOME DISTANCE BETWEEN MYSELF AND THE CAUSE OF MY SLUMP.
IN OTHER WORDS...
I NEEDED TO GET AWAY FROM THE CAUSE OF MY TROUBLES, ENA TAKAHASHI.
OH, TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!
NOW THAT I'VE CUT TIES WITH ENA, I FEEL MUCH BETTER.
I'LL BE CAREFUL TO AVOID CATCHING SIGHT OF HER FROM HERE ON OUT.
ART FESTI

CHAPTER 47
THE FLAMING BALL AND SORA KITAGAMI AND...


THUNK
TADAO-SAN?!
WHY ARE YOU K-K-KISSING A TREE ON THE SIDE-WALK?!
WAKUWAKU DREAM LAND
SHE'S TOTALLY CUTE, RIGHT?
IT'S ENA-CHII'S POSTER!
ART FESTIV


MAYBE HE SHOULD'VE SPENT MORE TIME RECUPER-ATING.
YUP.
YOU'RE A GOOD TREE.
THIS TREE JUST LOOKED SO LONELY.
NO, WELL, YOU KNOW.


MOST IMPOR-TANTLY...
SHE REALLY PUTS HER ALL INTO PUTTING ON A GOOD SHOW FOR HER FANS.
SHE'S SO COOL AND CUTE.

OH, YEAH! ACTUAL-LY, I'M PRETTY INTO HER.
ARE YOU MAYBE A FAN OF ENA TAKA-HASHI?
HMM?
HMM?
I'M NOT AT ALL, BUT LIKE...
SO, ANYWAY. YOU KNOW, LIKE...

HUH? PRO?
PRO WHAT?
PRO...
IT FEELS LIKE SHE GIVES ME COURAGE.
SHE'S NOT PICKY ABOUT WORK. SHE'S DEFINITELY PRO-CHALLENGE!
TAKE A LOOK AT HER IN THIS COSTUME.
WAKUWAKU DREAM LAND
IS THIS POSTER SUPPOSED TO BE A MESSAGE TO ME?!
I'M SURE DOING THE SAME WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU!
LOOK AT MY SKILLS. I'VE MASTERED THE ART OF MASCOT COSTUMES.
PROVOKE?!
HUH? WHERE DID YOU GO?
TADAO-SAN?
I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT I'M CAPABLE OF!
ME? THE MAN WHO LOOKS GOOD IN EVERYTHING?
DO YOU REALLY THINK I CAN'T MASTER WEARING A MASCOT COSTUME?
D-DAMN YOU, ENA TAKAHASHI.

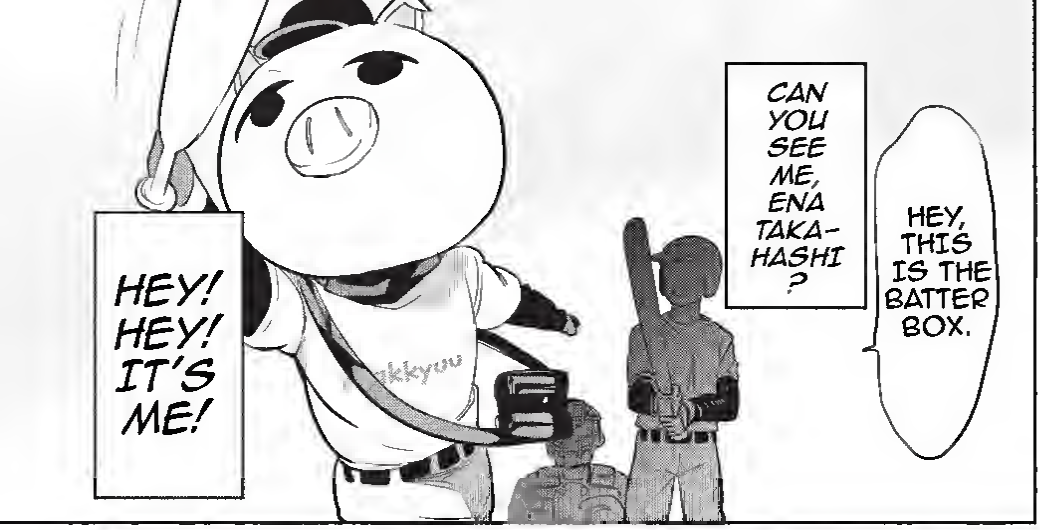
I'M...
I'M...
I'M JUST SO COOL IN THIS!
I ONLY BORROWED IT TO TRY IT ON, BUT LOOK AT ME!
TO THINK I COULD MASTER MASCOT COSTUMES WITH SUCH STYLE..
TWIRL
TWIRL
I CAME HERE TO COMPETE, BUT THERE'S NO FUN IN WINNING SO EASILY.
IT WOULD ONLY END WITH ENA TAKASHI'S HEART SHATTERING INTO PIECES.
I'M A BIT WORRIED I MIGHT SURPRISE SOMEONE.
LOOK.
THE MASCOT, MAKKYUU-KUN,
IS WAVING AT YOU.

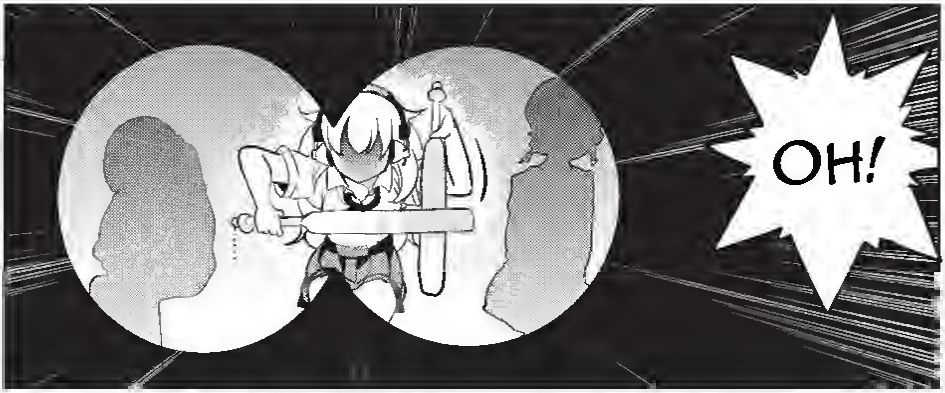
FEAST YOUR EYES ON HOW EASILY I'VE MASTERED THE ART OF COSTUME
I MISSED YO-- I MEAN, CALM DOWN, MAN. DON'T PANIC.
WHAT IS SHE DOING HERE?
THIS IS SURE TO EAT AWAY AT HER!
JEEZ.
ENA TAKAHASHI?!
THE GUY INSIDE LOOKS LIKE A TOTAL AMATEUR.
D-DAMMIT! JUST BECAUSE SHE'S GOT A LITTLE MORE EXPERIENCE...
BUT I LOOK SO COOL!
WHY SO SCATHING?!
SHATTER
ALL RIGHT. IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT, THAT'S WHAT YOU'LL GET!
IS IT BECAUSE I'M TOO COOL?
THAT'S IT! MASCOTS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE CUTE.

FEAST YOUR EYES, ENA TAKAHASHI!
THIS IS MY ADORABLE MAKKYUU-KUN DANCE!
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
THE WAY MAKKYUU-KUN'S ACTING TODAY IS KIND OF CREEPY.
CHEER
POW
EWW.
HE'S BEEN DANCING LIKE MAD FOR OVER TWO HOURS NOW.
I GUESS BEING THE FAIRY OF BASEBALL IS NO EASY JOB AFTER ALL.
I DON'T KNOW WHEN OR HOW TO STOP ANY-MORE.
PANT
PANT
SOON, WE'LL SEE WHO'S REALLY THE MASTER AND WHO'S REALLY THE SERVANT!
AND FALL IN LOVE WITH ME ALL OVER AGAIN!
I'VE NO CHOICE BUT TO GIVE HIM A PERFECT TEN!
WHAT FLAW-LESS MASCOT!
NOW, SHOW ME HOW SUR-PRISED YOU ARE!
HMPH. LET'S SEE IF THAT WAS GOOD ENOUGH FOR HER.
PANT PANT
SHINK

FWIP
?!
なみのりクリスマス
WH-WHAT AM I LACK-ING?
L-LET IT GO
HUH?
YOU GOT A PROB-LEM WITH ONE POINT?!
ONE POINT?
ONE?!
THAT'S IT?!
HEY! YOU WANNA GO?!
HERE! I'M A CUTE LITTLE BASE-BALL BOY!
DO YOU MEAN THAT I SHOULD TRY HARDER TO BECOME MORE LIKE MAKKYUU-KUN?
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
SHINK
HOW ABOUT THAT?

NOW I'M DOING EVEN WORSE!
HOW ?!
SLUMP
LET'S JUST GO.
WHIFF
WHACK
AN X?!
WAIT. I KNOW.
SHE JUST CAN'T SEE ME WELL.
I HAVE MY BELOVED BINOCU-LARS,
BUT SHE HAS NOTHING.
HUH?
WHY ARE YOU FOL-LOW-ING US?
I HAVE TO GO SOME-WHERE SHE CAN SEE ME.
GLANCE
GLANCE

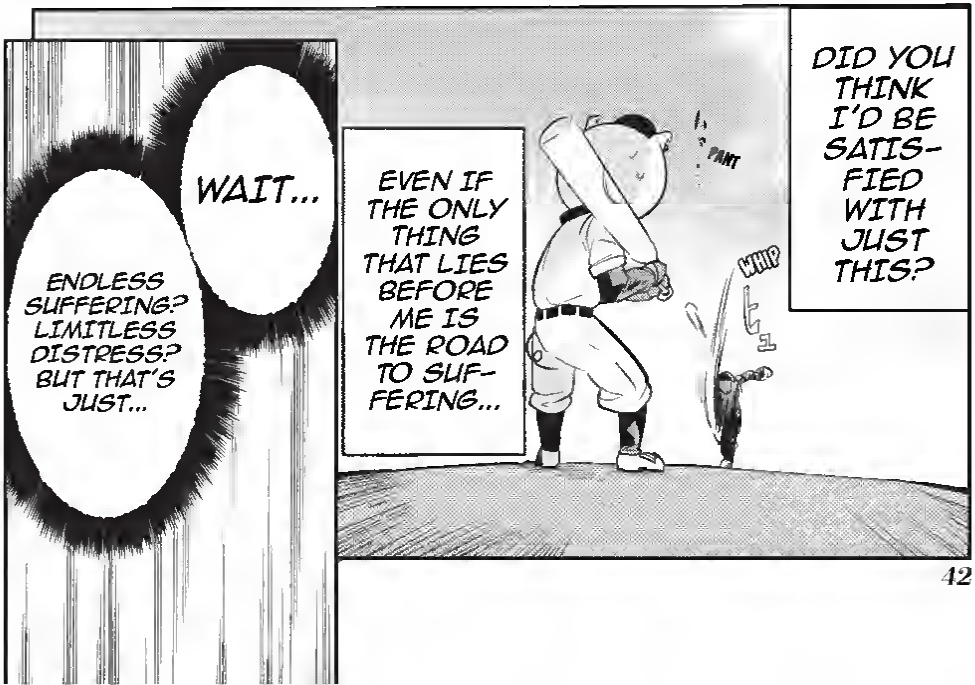

HEY! HEY! IT'S ME!
CAN YOU SEE ME, ENA TAKA-HASHI?
HEY, THIS IS THE BATTER BOX.


OH!

MY HEART IS JUST SCREAMING FOR SOMETHING IT NEEDS...
HUH? I CAN FEEL SOMETHING HOT DEEP INSIDE MY HEART WELLING UP.
THAT MADE ME HAPPY, BUT SOMETHING'S STILL LACKING...
そわ FIDGET
そわ FIDGET
WHISPER WHISPER
ヒソ ヒソ

WOULD YOU LOOK AT THAT! A PERFECT TEN!
YA-HOO! I FEEL GREAT!
IS HE ON SOME KIND OF LEGAL HIGH?

ONE HUNDRED POINTS!
!! PANT ?...
I WANT ONE HUNDRED POINTS!
!! PANT ?...
HUMANS ARE GREEDY CREA-TURES!
I WANT IT!
I WANT EVEN MORE FROM ENA TAKA-HASHI!
!? PANT PANT


DID YOU THINK I'D BE SATIS-FIED WITH JUST THIS?
PANT
WHIP
EVEN IF THE ONLY THING THAT LIES BEFORE ME IS THE ROAD TO SUF-FERING...
WAIT...
ENDLESS SUFFERING? LIMITLESS DISTRESS? BUT THAT'S JUST...

THAT'S JUST...
...A REWARD TO ME, MY QUEEN!
HUH?!
WHAM
N-NO WAY!
MY QUEEN, I'VE HIT A HOME-RUN!
PLEASE GIVE ME YOUR NEXT ORDER, MY QUEEN!
TH-THE TRUTH IS...
I THOUGHT THE HEELS ON YOUR MASCOT COSTUME WERE SO CLASSY...
...THAT I CHOSE THE PERFECT COSTUME TO COM-PLEMENT YOURS, A PIG!
MAKKYUU

I'M SURE...
WHAM
...WE'LL BECOME THE PERFECT BATTERY TOGE-THER!
PLEASE GIVE ME A HUNDRED POINTS, ENA-SAMAAA!
WHOOOSH
THE--
THE HOME-RUN BALL WAS JUST HIT BACK FROM THE AUDI-ENCE?!
HUH?

IT WAS HER?
AMA-ZING!
HEY... WHA... WAIT, THE BALL CAME BACK.
I'M TELLING YOU, YOUR FLAVOR OF BDSM IS TOO HARSH! COME TO YOUR SENSES!
OINK!
THWACK
...OINK?
HUH? DID I... JUST...
I SEE.
THIS IS REALLY WHAT IT MEANS TO MASTER A MASCOT COSTUME 100 PERCENT.
WITH THAT ONE HIT, I SUDDENLY CAME TO REALIZE THE TRUTH.
WERE YOUR CRUEL METHODS ALL TO LEND ME A HELPING HAND?
I HAD TOO MUCH FAITH IN MY OWN ABILITY, BUT YOU DIDN'T ABANDON ME.

YOU CAME TO HELP...
YES, I'M HERE TO HELP.
HELP ALL THE HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL PLAYERS YOU'RE BOTHERING RIGHT NOW, THAT IS.

I'M GLAD THE POLICE SHOWED UP
NOW THAT HE'S BEEN TAKEN AWAY, THAT'S ONE LESS THING TO WORRY ABOUT.
POLICE
YOU KNOW WHAT, ENA TAKAHASHI?
GETTING QUESTIONED BY THE POLICE.
. IS ACTUALLY PRETTY TOUGH

UM, DO YOU KNOW WHERE TADAO-SAN IS?
I HEARD HE WENT TO HOKKAIDO.
OH, DID HE GET SENT TO ABASHI PENITENTIARY?
NO, HE SAID THE TREATMENT DOWN SOUTH WAS NO GOOD, SO HE'D GO NORTH

English Digital Edition
Chapter 047

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Yu Hokuo

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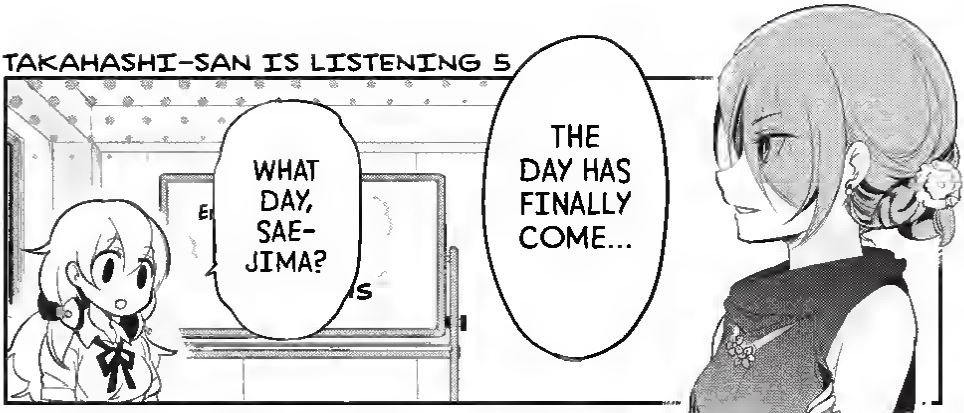
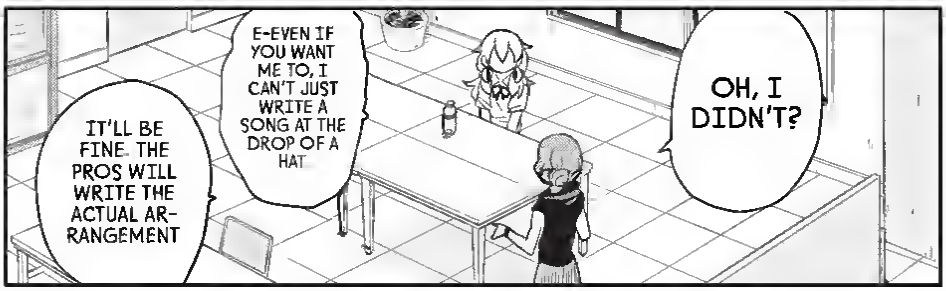
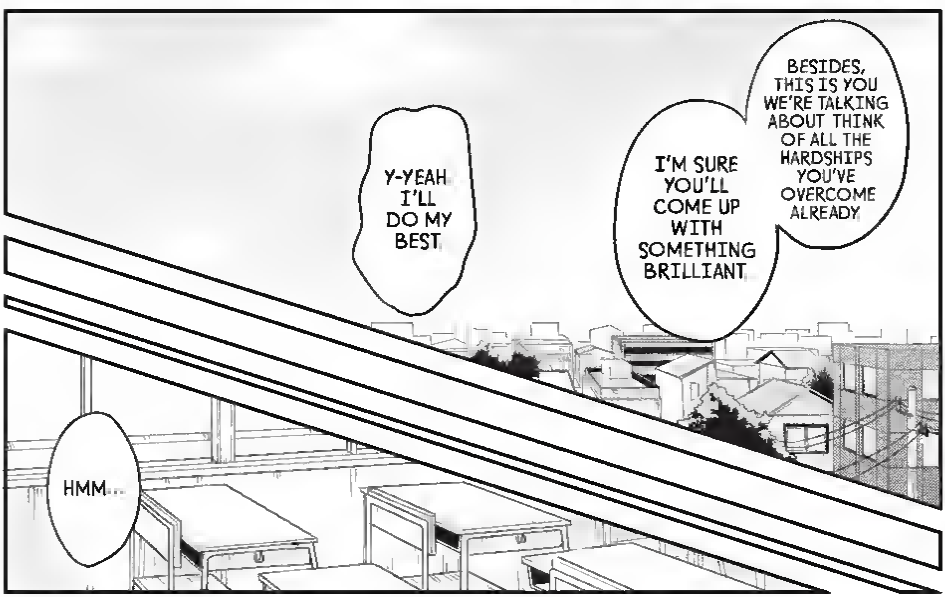


CHAPTER 48
THE FUN STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTION, PART 1

A REAL IDOL!
I'M SO HAPPY THAT I COULD PUT ON A SMALL SHOW FOR YOU.
I CAN'T BELIEVE I FINALLY GET TO RELEASE MY OWN ALBUM!
THAT'S RIGHT, ENA.

WAIT, WHAT? YOU NEVER MENTIONED ANYTHING ABOUT SONG-WRITING BEFORE.
RIGHT!
NOT ONLY THAT, BUT THIS ALBUM WILL ALSO MARK YOUR DEBUT AS A SONG-WRITER!


IT'LL BE FINE. THE PROS WILL WRITE THE ACTUAL ARRANGEMENT
E-EVEN IF YOU WANT ME TO, I CAN'T JUST WRITE A SONG AT THE DROP OF A HAT.
OH, I DIDN'T?


HMM...
Y-YEAH I'LL DO MY BEST.
I'M SURE YOU'LL COME UP WITH SOMETHING BRILLIANT.
BESIDES, THIS IS YOU WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THINK OF ALL THE HARDSHIPS YOU'VE OVERCOME ALREADY.

ENA-CHII, YOU'RE STILL STUDYING? YOU'RE AMAZING.
OH, I'M NOT STUDYING.
I'M WRITING A SONG
SUMMER LESSONS? HOW BORING!
WE'RE IN THE UNIVERSITY PREP CLASS, SO THAT'S HOW IT IS
HMMM

*JAPAN'S BEST

YEAH? THAT'S AWESOME, TAKAHASHI.
I'D EXPECT NOTHING LESS OF ENA
WHAAAT? THAT'S EVEN MORE AMAZING!

HEY, CAN YOU WRITE A SONG ABOUT ME?
EVEN SO, YOU'RE STILL GREAT!
TO BE HONEST, I'M KIND OF AT A ROADBLOCK.

WHAT IS UP WITH THAT OUTFIT?
I REALLY DON'T WANT TO ASK, BUT...

THERE THERE, ENA-CHII.
YOU KNOW THE STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS COMING UP?
KATOU'S RUNNING
STUDENT COUNCIL ELEC-TIONS?
COME ON, CAN'T YOU TELL BY LOOKING?
日本一
IF I COULD, WHY WOULD I BOTHER ASKING?

*JAPAN'S BEST

NO WAIT, IS IT BE-CAUSE YOU KNOW THAT YOU'RE STUPID?!
IS SOME-THING WRONG WITH YOUR HEAD?
YOU'RE DOING YOUR SPEECH IN THAT?
THAT'S WHY I'VE BEEN PRACTICING FOR MY SPEECH LIKE THIS.
IT'S IMPORTANT TO HAVE IMPACT IF I WANT TO GET ELECTED AS PRESIDENT

*JAPAN'S BEST BOOB PARTY

IF YOU MANAGE TO WIN LOOKING LIKE THAT, I WON'T JUST WRITE YOU A SONG, I'LL WRITE YOU AN ENTIRE MUSICAL SUITE!
COME ON, CAN YOU WRITE A SONG ABOUT ME?
HOW ABOUT YOU PROMISE TO DO ONE FOR ME IF I WIN THE ELEC-TION?

MY GOD...
WHAT'S A MUSICAL SUITE ANYWAY?
SERIOUSLY? SICK! IT'S A PROMISE!
I THINK I MIGHT RUN FOR STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT.
..SOMEONE WHO GETS GOOD GRADES AND STUFF.
I MEAN, A STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT SHOULD BE MORE LIKE, YOU KNOW
IS OUR SCHOOL REALLY SO LACKING IN CAPABLE PEOPLE THAT KATOU IS AN ACCEPTABLE CANDIDATE FOR STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT?
YEAH.
I GUESS IT SUITS YOU. YOU'RE THE MOST SERIOUS GUY I KNOW.
YOU, NARA-KUN?
SOME-ONE SERI-OUS...
BUT YOU KNOW HOW THE STUDENT COUNCIL IS.
I KNOW I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF WRITING A SONG,
BUT I JUST SORT OF HAPPENED TO OVER-HEAR THEM TALKING!
THAT'S RIGHT! A CANDIDATE LIKE NARA-KUN IS JUST THE TYPE I'D VOTE FOR.

HOW COULD YOU POSSIBLY INTERPRET THAT?
THEY'RE BASICALLY AN EVIL ORGANIZATION, RIGHT?
COME ON. WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, MIKAGE?
THE STUDENT COUNCIL IS THERE TO DO WHATEVER THE STUDENT BODY NEEDS. IT'S A GROUP OF PEOPLE LIKE MOTHER TERESA OR FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.
THEY'RE ALWAYS ON THE SIDE OF JUSTICE AND NEVER MAKE MISTAKES. THEY'RE OBVIOUSLY A BENEFICIAL ORGANIZATION.
THAT'S JUST AS EXTREME IN ITS OWN WAY.
I THOUGHT ALL THE STUDENT COUNCIL REALLY DID WAS THOSE GREETING EXERCISES.
TWO-FOUR TIME!
ARE YOU SURE? IN THE MANGA I READ...
YOU'RE THINKING OF A MANGA?!

WHAT? REPEATING CHANTS?
IT'S AS THOUGH THEY'RE SYSTEMATICALLY BRAINWASHING ALL WHO ENTER THE SCHOOL.
THEY STAND AT THE SCHOOL GATES AND FORCE PASSING STUDENTS TO REPEAT CHANTS.
...WHAT I WAS TALKING ABOUT BEFORE?
GOOD MORNING.
ISN'T THAT...
WHAT?! THEY DO WHAT BRIGHT AND EARLY?
THE STUDENT COUNCIL ARRIVES AT THE GATES BRIGHT AND EARLY TO FULFILL ACTS OF CHARITY OUT OF THE GOODNESS OF THEIR OWN HEARTS FOR ABSOLUTELY NO REWARD.
WHAT? IN THE BOOKS I READ,
...EXACTLY WHAT MIKAGE-KUN WAS JUST TALKING ABOUT?
GOOD MORNING.
ISN'T THAT...

SO IT REALLY IS WHAT I WAS TALKING ABOUT.
AND THOSE SELFLESS INDIVIDU-ALS...
AND THOSE MEMBERS OF SUCH AN EVIL ORGANIZA-TION...
...CALL THEIR ACTIVITIES "MORNING GREETING EXERCISES."
THEY'RE MAKING AN AWFULLY BIG DEAL OUT OF SAYING GOOD MORNING.
THREE-FOUR TIME!
IT LOOKS LIKE WE SEE THINGS DIFFERENTLY.
YUP.
MIKAGE, DO YOU INTEND...
...TO SEE THE STUDENT COUNCIL AS EVIL NO MATTER WHAT?
PRETTY MUCH.

PLEASE DONATE!
OH, HE MEANS THE ONES WHERE YOU GET A FEATHER FOR DONATING.
I DON'T SEE HOW YOU COULD SEE THOSE AS ANYTHING BUT GOOD.
THEN...
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THOSE FUND RAISING EVENTS?
I DON'T SEE HOW YOU COULD SEE THOSE AS ANYTHING BUT PURE EVIL.
HOW?
THEY GIVE A FEATHER TO EACH AND EVERY PERSON WHO DONATES
DO YOU KNOW WHY THOSE FEATHERS ARE CRIMSON?
THEY'RE DYED WITH THE BLOOD OF THOSE WHO REFUSED TO DONATE.
THE RED FEATHER DRIVE WARNING...
BLOOD? THAT'S WAY TOO SCARY
THAT'S JUST NOT TRUE, MIKAGE.
THAT'S RIGHT, NARA-KUN YOU TELL HIM!

SO IT'S BLOOD EITHER WAY!
THE COLOR COMES FROM THEIR TIRELESS EFFORTS.
IT'S THE BLOOD OF SELF-SACRIFICE.
BLOOD, SWEAT AND TEARS, HUH?
SUCH THINGS ARE ONLY TEMPORARY.
THEY COULD JUST WASH THEM AWAY, NO?
WELL, IT'S NOT JUST BLOOD.
IT'S BLOOD, SWEAT AND TEARS.
NO ONE WANTS YOUR KIND OF RED FEATHER.
IF YOU HAVE TO DYE IT WITH SOMETHING, GO WITH STRAWBERRY SAUCE OR KETCHUP.
NOW I WANT IT EVEN LESS!
EUROBEAT!

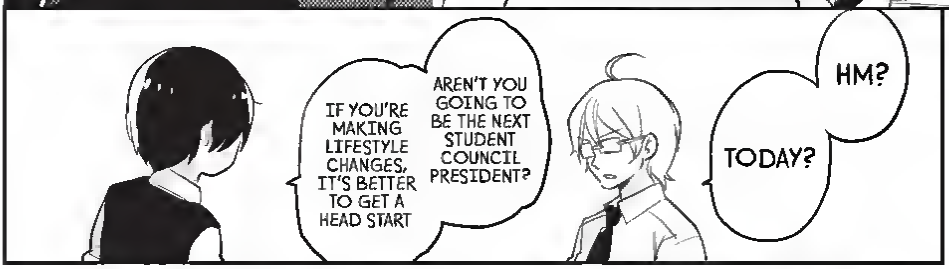
I MEAN, IN THEIR CELEB BATH, FILLED WITH MONEY...
...FROM THEIR CHARITY!
SLIDE
LOOK AT ALL THESE DONA-TIONS!
I THINK THEY'D BE BETTER OFF JUST TAKING A NORMAL BATH.
THE STUDENT COUNCIL DOESN'T COLLECT MONEY TO LINE THEIR OWN POCKETS.
IN FACT, IT IS THE OPPOSITE!
HMPH. WELL THE CAT'S REALLY OUT OF THE BAG NOW, HUH, MIKAGE?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THE MEMBERS OF THE STUDENT COUNSEL LIVE FRUGAL LIVES.
THAT MUCH CAN BE CLEARLY OBSERVED FROM THEIR ACTIVI-TIES.
HUH? ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?
ARE THEY REALLY DOING ANYTHING THAT INDICATES A LIFE-STYLE?
IT'S EVIDENT IN...

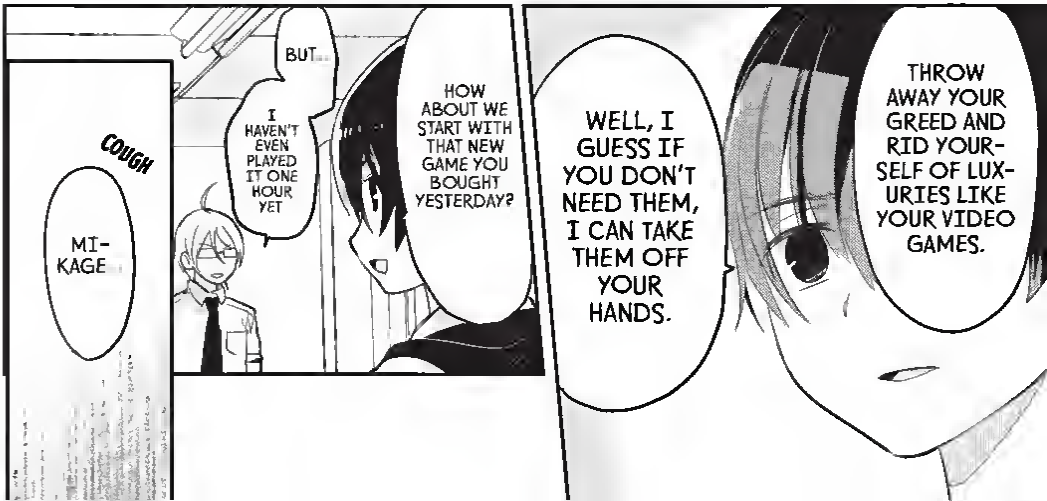
THE STUDENT COUNCIL'S
...FOOD...
...CLOTHING...
...AND ALL OF THEIR OTHER ESSENTIALS...
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S A BIT OF AN EXAGGERATION?
PICKING UP GARBAGE!
...THE MOST HOLY OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES...

SO YOU'RE SAYING THEY DON'T JUST DO IT TO KEEP THE TOWN CLEAN?!
...FROM THE GARBAGE THEY PICK UP!
IT'S ALL COLLECTED ...

N-NO WAY ARE YOU TELLING ME SAINTS LIKE THAT EXISTS?
THEY DO!
THEIR ACTIONS ALONE PROVE IT.
THROWING AWAY YOUR GREED...
AND DONATING YOUR WORLDLY POSSESSIONS TO THE POOR...
THAT'S WHAT IT TAKES TO BE..
THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT NO..
THE SAINT COUNCIL PRESIDENT!
S-SAINTS REALLY DO EXIST!
...
I ADMIT MY DEFEAT. I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO ACCEPT YOUR CLAIMS
NARA-KUN...
...IS TRYING TO BE THAT KIND OF SAINT.
HE'S SO DEVOTED TO THIS TASK, NOTHING CAN STOP HIM!

THAT'S ADMIRABLE, NARA-KUN!
LET'S START PRACTICING YOUR SAINTLY ACTIVITIES TODAY.
HE HAS SUCH HIGH ASPIRATIONS!
KATOU DOESN'T HOLD A CANDLE TO HIM.


HM?
TODAY?
AREN'T YOU GOING TO BE THE NEXT STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT?
IF YOU'RE MAKING LIFESTYLE CHANGES, IT'S BETTER TO GET A HEAD START


THROW AWAY YOUR GREED AND RID YOURSELF OF LUXURIES LIKE YOUR VIDEO GAMES.
WELL, I GUESS IF YOU DON'T NEED THEM, I CAN TAKE THEM OFF YOUR HANDS.
HOW ABOUT WE START WITH THAT NEW GAME YOU BOUGHT YESTERDAY?
BUT...
I HAVEN'T EVEN PLAYED IT ONE HOUR YET
COUGH
MI-KAGE

I THINK IT MAY BE BEST THAT I AIM TO RUN IN NEXT YEAR'S ELECTION.
SO HIS ASPIRATIONS CRUMBLE BEFORE JUST ONE GAME!
WHOA!
WHOA, ENA. IS THIS AN ENTIRE SCORE?
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE REALLY GOING TO DO A MUSICAL SUITE...
...FOR KATOU.
HUH?
IF I BECOME THE NEXT STUDENT COUNCIL PRESI-DENT...
..TAKA-HASHI SAID SHE'D WRITE ME A MUSICAL SUITE!
SHE PROM-ISED ME SO IT'S FOR REAL!
HE'S TELLING EVERYONE WHAT I SAID!
I'M GONNA BE THE NEXT STUDENT PRESIDENT FOR SURE!
YEAH?
NO WAY!
D-DON'T TELL ME THAT JUST SAYING IT WAS THE KISS OF DEATH.
H-HE WON'T GET ELECTED, RIGHT? THERE'S NO WAY KATOU COULD BECOME PRESIDENT. NO WAY...

Q: THERE ARE TWO PRESENTS TO CHOOSE FROM: ONE IN A BIG BOX AND ONE IN A LITTLE BOX. WHICH BOX DO YOU THINK HAS THE BETTER PRESENT?

NARA, 11 YEARS OLD

English Digital Edition
Chapter 048

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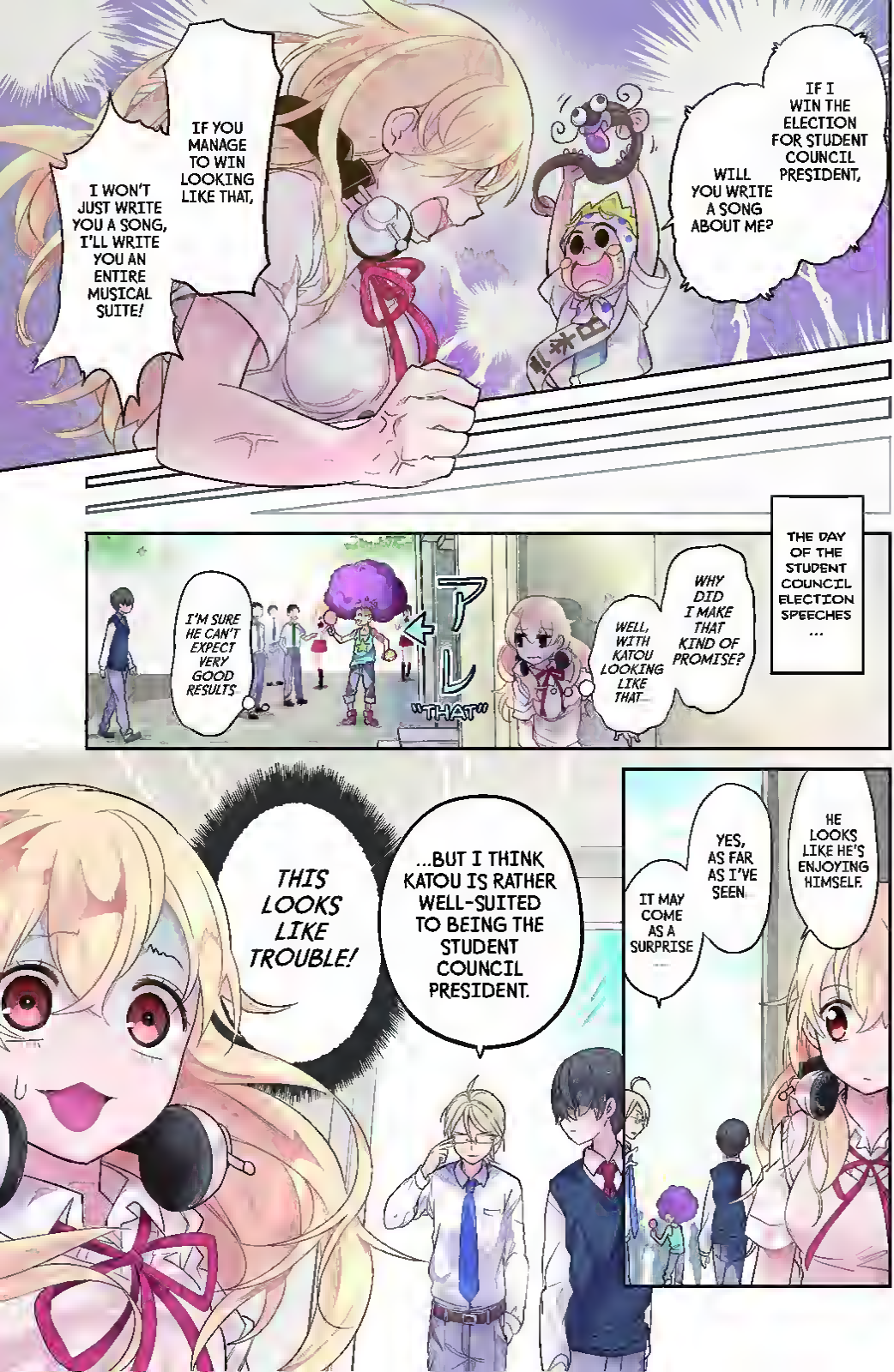

IF I WIN THE ELECTION FOR STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT,
WILL YOU WRITE A SONG ABOUT ME?
IF YOU MANAGE TO WIN LOOKING LIKE THAT,
I WON'T JUST WRITE YOU A SONG, I'LL WRITE YOU AN ENTIRE MUSICAL SUITE!
THE DAY OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTION SPEECHES ...
WHY DID I MAKE THAT KIND OF PROMISE?
WELL, WITH KATOU LOOKING LIKE THAT...
アレ
"THAT?"
I'M SURE HE CAN'T EXPECT VERY GOOD RESULTS.
HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S ENJOYING HIMSELF.
YES, AS FAR AS I'VE SEEN.
IT MAY COME AS A SURPRISE.
...BUT I THINK KATOU IS RATHER WELL-SUITED TO BEING THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT.
THIS LOOKS LIKE TROUBLE!

CHAPTER 49
THE FUN STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTION, PART 2

Q: THERE ARE TWO PRESENTS TO CHOOSE FROM: ONE IN A BIG BOX, AND ONE IN A LITTLE BOX. WHICH BOX DO YOU THINK HAS THE BETTER PRESENT?

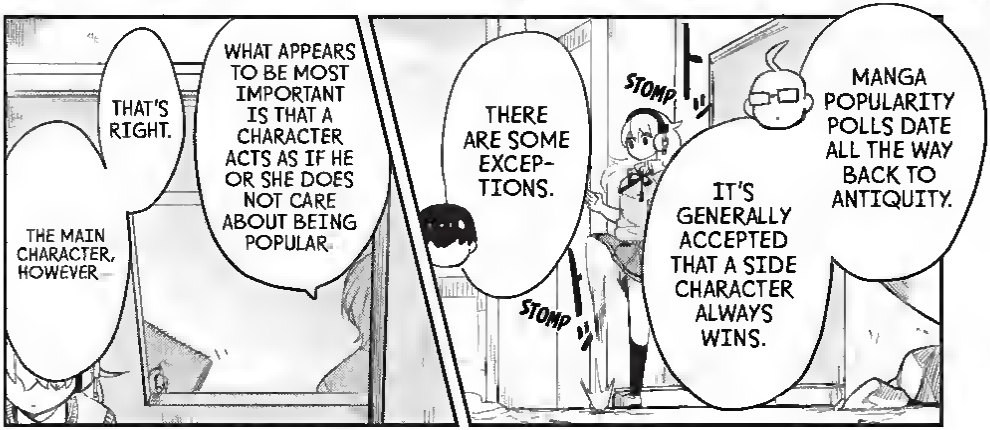
MIKAGE, 12 YEARS OLD

NEXT, WE'LL HEAR FROM KATOU-KUN.
HELLO!
I'M THE CLASS CLOWN AIMING FOR UNIVERSITY WITH THE LOWEST GRADES, KATOU!
WHOA...
うわぁ...
I'LL RUN RIGHT OVER AS SOON AS I'M DONE!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO RUN.
TAP TAP TAP
IF YOU'RE IN THAT MUCH OF A HURRY, I CAN PICK YOU UP.
THAT'S OKAY! YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT ME.
REALLY, I'M JUST HERE FOR THE ELECTION SPEECHES. ATTENDANCE WAS OPTIONAL...
CHATTER
さわ
さわ
N-NOT YET...
EHA? ARE YOU NOT OUT OF SCHOOL YET?

WORRY
THE NEW STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT IS KATOU-KUN!
WOO HOO! I WIIIN!
BLERGH!
CLAP CLAP
WORRY
...BUT I HAVE TO SEE HOW THIS ELECTION ENDS.
OTHERWISE, I WON'T BE ABLE TO RELAX AND FOCUS AT WORK.
IT'S MY NEW SONG, THE KATOU MUSICAL SUITE!
WHAT HAPPENED TO ENA-CHAN?
SO LAME.
I FEEL A WAVE OF LAMENESS OVERTAKING ME.
IT'S LIKE ALL OF HER TALENT HAS DRIED UP
SHAKE SHAKE
BOOM SHAKA
BOOM SHAKA
IT'S OKAY. THERE'S NO WAY HE'LL WIN. NO WAY.
NARA-KUN.
WHAT IS IT, MI-KAGE?
AFTER SEEING THAT, HOW DO YOU FEEL?
ARE YOU ASKING WHO I THINK WILL WIN?
NARA-KUN, MI-KAGE-KUN..
ARE YOU TWO TRYING TO PREDICT WHO WILL WIN THIS ELECTION?

FLOOSH
LET'S SEE.
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I WANTED TO HEAR RIGHT NOW!
AND I JUST SORT OF HAPPENED TO OVERHEAR THEM TALKING ABOUT IT!
Y-YEAH!
HOWEVER, I MUST CONFESS THAT THE FELLOW FROM CLASS B APPEARED TO BE THE MOST PURE AND THE MOST POPULAR
FLOOSH
PREVIOUSLY, I HAD SAID KATOU-KUN WAS WELL-SUITED FOR THE JOB
AND HOW DOES THAT LOOK, EXACTLY?
AT LEAST, THAT'S THE KIND OF GUY HE LOOKED LIKE.
THAT MEANS HE'S NEVER ONCE SPILLED SOY SAUCE ON IT!
HMM, IT'S TRUE THAT HE DIDN'T APPEAR TO HAVE SO MUCH AS A SINGLE STAIN ON HIS SHIRT.
BECAUSE, YOU KNOW, MAIN CHARAC-TERS...
WHY?! THAT'S STILL BETTER THAN KATOU, RIGHT?
THAT'S NO GOOD.
A MAIN CHARAC-TER?
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, HE SEEMED LIKE THE MAIN CHARACTER TYPE.

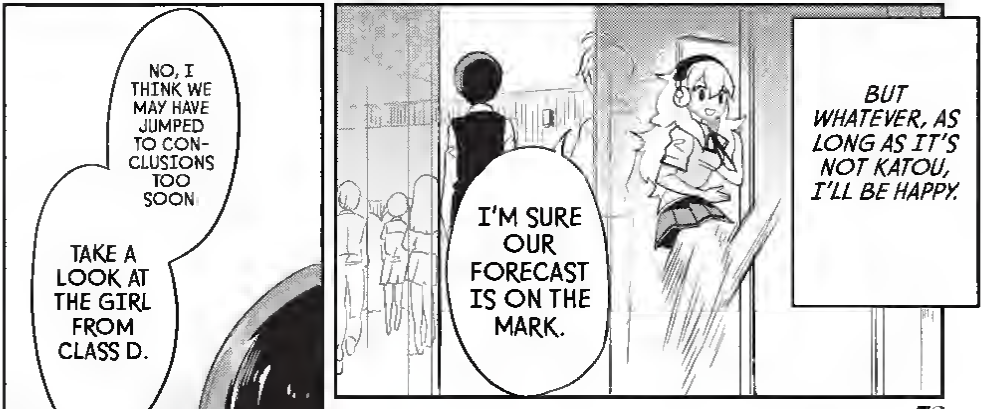
I SEE. THAT STANDS TO REASON.
NO, IT DOESN'T! THIS IS NEITHER A MANGA NOR A POPULARITY CONTEST!
SOME OTHER PERSON
他の人
MAIN CHARACTER
MANGA AGAIN?!
OR AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT ALWAYS HAPPENS AS FAR AS I KNOW. IN MANGA, ANYWAY...
...NEVER GET THE FIRST SPOT IN POPULARITY RANKINGS!
STOMP


THAT'S RIGHT.
WHAT APPEARS TO BE MOST IMPORTANT IS THAT A CHARACTER ACTS AS IF HE OR SHE DOES NOT CARE ABOUT BEING POPULAR.
THE MAIN CHARACTER, HOWEVER—
THERE ARE SOME EXCEP-TIONS.
STOMP
STOMP
IT'S GENERALLY ACCEPTED THAT A SIDE CHARACTER ALWAYS WINS.
MANGA POPULARITY POLLS DATE ALL THE WAY BACK TO ANTIQUITY.

第1回 次世代生徒会人気投票 結果発表!!
THE FIRST FUTURE STUDENT COUNCIL POPULARITY POLL RESULTS!
FIRST PLACE
SIDE CHARACTER
512 VOTES
IT'S ALL THANKS TO EVERYONE HERE THAT I GOT SECOND PLACE!
...WOULD APPEAR SOMETHING LIKE THIS IF WE WERE TO DRAW A PICTURE.
A POPULARITY POLL? I DON'T CARE.
SECOND PLACE
MAIN CHARACTER
256 VOTES
☆THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR PARTICIPATING! WE HAD A HUGE TURNOUT!
6TH CLASS C'S SHINFUJI-SAN
7TH CLASS A'S MARUDAI-KUN
SHINKAN-KUN
S TEACHER
NG DOG
AT
DA
A
KUN
OTO-SAN
ASU-KUN
A PICTURE?! WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE EVEN?
THIRD PLACE
THIRD PLACE
PERSON
128 VOTES
I WANT TO THANK A-SAN FROM SAGA PREFECTURE FOR PUTTING IN FIFTY VOTES FOR ME!
FOURTH PLACE
FOURTH PLACE
PERSON
64 VOTES
A-ARE YOU TELLING ME I DIDN'T GET FIRST?!
FIFTH PLACE
FIFTH PLACE
PERSON
32 VOTES
TCH, I WAS SO CLOSE...
HE LOOKS LIKE THE TYPE TO SAY, "A POPULARITY POLL? I DON'T CARE."
IF WE USE THIS THEORY FOR OUR PREDICTIONS, THEN THAT FELLOW FROM CLASS C IS ALSO A STRONG CANDIDATE
YOU TWO HAVE BEEN THINKING OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL AS A FICTIONAL ENTITY FOR FAR TOO LONG.
THIS POPULARITY POLL IS EXACTLY AS I EXPECTED.

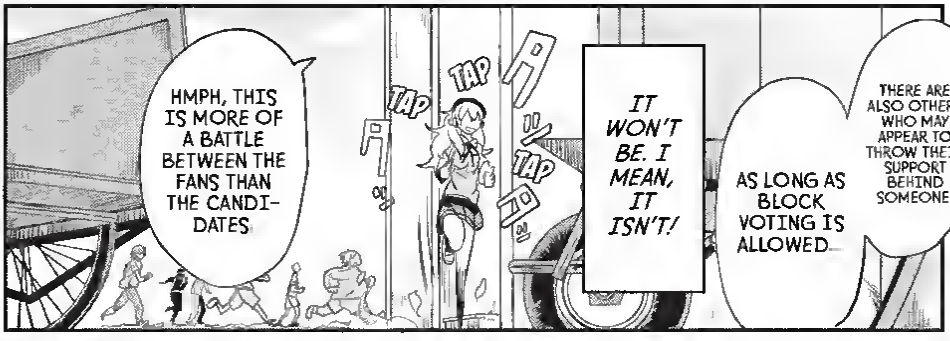
第1回 未来生徒会 選挙 結果発表!!
THE FIRST FUTURE STUDE RESULTS!
SO WHY IS HE RUNNING FOR ELEC-TION?
I'M SURE HE DOESN'T EVEN CARE ABOUT THE STUDENT COUNCIL!
I'M NOT EVEN INTERESTED IN THINGS I'M NOT INTERESTED IN.
THAT NIHILISTIC ATTITUDE! THAT LACK OF INTEREST IN THE VOTES! HE CARRIES HIM-SELF LIKE A TRULY POPULAR CHARACTER.
THUMP
THUMP

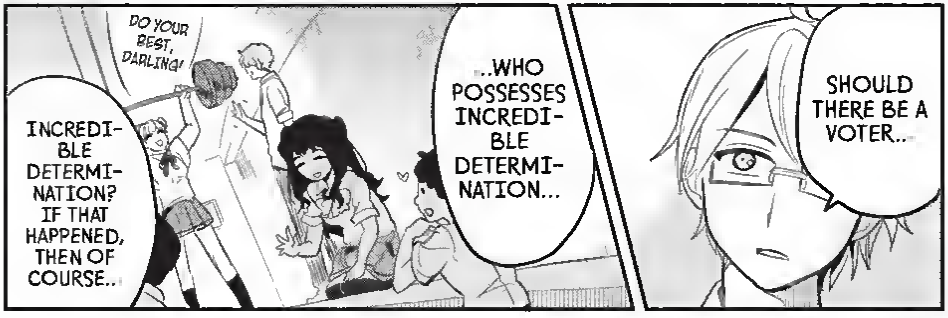
END UP BEING KIND OF POPULAR
OR GUYS THAT HAVE A MENACING LOOK IN THEIR EYE BUT ARE STILL RE-LIABLE
B-BUT THEY HAVE A POINT IT'S TRUE THAT GUYS THAT LOOK A LITTLE ROUGH...
GASP


NO, I THINK WE MAY HAVE JUMPED TO CON-CLUSIONS TOO SOON
TAKE A LOOK AT THE GIRL FROM CLASS D.
I'M SURE OUR FORECAST IS ON THE MARK.
BUT WHATEVER, AS LONG AS IT'S NOT KATOU, I'LL BE HAPPY.

WHAT OF IT? THERE'S ALWAYS A POPULAR GIRL.
YOU DON'T SEE IT? THIS IS WHAT THEY CALL...
IT MAY BE SMALL, BUT SHE DOES HAVE A FOLLOWING.
HMPH!
...THE POSSIBILITY OF FANS SUBMITTING MULTIPLE VOTES!
M-MULTIPLE VOTES?!
BUT EACH STUDENT CAN ONLY SUBMIT ONE VOTE FOR THE STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTION!
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I BELIEVE I'VE HEARD OF THIS BEFORE.
FANS WILL WORK TO THE BONE TO COLLECT VOTING TICKETS FOR THE MEMBER THEY LOVE.
THOSE FANS WILL VOTE HUNDREDS OR THOUSANDS OF TIMES.
IN THE END, THE RESULT OF THE ELECTION ...
BALLOT
BALLOT
WHAT IS THIS, THE AKIBA IDOL ELECTIONS ?!

第1回 次世代生徒会人気投票結果発表!!
THE FIRST-FUTURE-STUDENT COUNCIL POPULARITY POLL RESULTS!
FIRST PLACE
PRETTY GIRL
5,064 VOTES
SECOND PLACE
SIDE CHARACTER
512 VOTES
THIRD PLACE
MAIN CHARACTER
256 VOTES
FOURTH PLACE
THE AMOUNT OF VOTES THEY SUBMITTED SKYROCKETED.
A POPULARITY POLL? I DON'T CARE.
THANK YOU TO A-SAN OF SAGE PREFECTURE AND B-SAN OF TOCHIGI PREFECTURE FOR PUTTING IN FIVE THOUSAND VOTES FOR ME!
...WOULD BE LIKE THIS!
IT'S ALL THANKS TO EVERYONE HERE THAT I GOT THIRD PLACE!

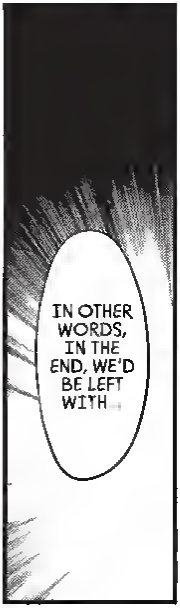

HMPH, THIS IS MORE OF A BATTLE BETWEEN THE FANS THAN THE CANDIDATES.
TAP
TAP
TAP
IT WON'T BE. I MEAN, IT ISN'T!
AS LONG AS BLOCK VOTING IS ALLOWED...
THERE ARE ALSO OTHERS WHO MAY APPEAR TO THROW THEIR SUPPORT BEHIND SOMEONE


DO YOUR BEST, DARLING!
INCREDIBLE DETERMINATION? IF THAT HAPPENED, THEN OF COURSE...
...WHO POSSESSES INCREDIBLE DETERMINATION...
SHOULD THERE BE A VOTER...

第1回 次世代生徒会人気投票 結果発表!!
THE FIRST FUTURE STUDENT COUNCIL POPULARITY POLL RESULTS!
☆ THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR PARTICIPATING! WE HAD A HUGE TURNOUT!
FIRST PLACE
C-SAN'S BOYFRIEND
5,000,128 VOTES
SECOND PLACE
PRETTY GIRL
5,064 VOTES
THIRD PLACE
SIDE CHARACTER
512 VOTES
FOURTH PLACE
MAIN CHARACTER
256 VOTES
FIFTH PLACE
FIFTH PLACE PERSON
32 VOTES
A-SAN FROM SAGA PREFECTURE AND B-SAN FROM TOCHIGI PREFECTURE, EVEN THOUGH YOU PUT IN FIVE THOUSAND VOTES FOR ME...
C-SAN, THANK YOU FOR PUTTING IN FIVE MILLION VOTES JUST FOR ME!
THE VOTES WOULD LOOK LIKE THIS.
A POPULARITY POLL? I DON'T CARE.
IT'S ALL THANKS TO EVERYONE HERE THAT I GOT FOURTH PLACE!
TCH, I WAS SO CLOSE...
THE MAIN CHARACTER'S RANK KEEPS SLIPPING.
HOW WILL HE FARE IN THE RANK-INGS?
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE REST! HOW WILL KATOU DO?
TH-THAT'S RIGHT! HE'S THE ONE I'M MOST INTERESTED IN.
NOW THEN, ALL WE HAVE LEFT IS KATOU-KUN.
SOME-THING IMPORT-ANT?
YES, I KNEW I HAD FORGOTTEN SOMETHING IMPORTANT

SINCE ANTI-QUITY--WELL, SINCE WAY BACK WHEN,
IT'S ALWAYS BEEN A SIDE CHARAC-TER TO TAKE FIRST PLACE
THE MAIN CHARACTER ENDS UP SECOND OR THIRD
BUT NOW...

THE COLLECTIVE CONSCIOUS-NESS OF THE INTERNET!
THUD
THUD
WHY WHIP OUT A MYSTERIOUS TERM LIKE THAT?


IN OTHER WORDS, IN THE END, WE'D BE LEFT WITH...

I BET IF WE
『こいつ1位にして
ーも泣かそう』
WOULD
MUST
ONLINE, FANS WILL FIND SOMEONE UNLIKELY TO VOTE FOR,
AND ANONYMOUS USERS WILL CARRY THAT CHARACTER TO FIRST PLACE!
TO THEM, IT'S NOTHING MORE THAN A GAME!
YOU'D MAKE ME CRY, NOT THE KIDS!

第1回 次世代生徒会人気投票 結果発表!!
THE FIRST FUTURE STUDENT COUNCIL POPULARITY POLL RESULTS!
☆ THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR PARTICIPATING! WE HAD A HUGE TURNOUT!
FIRST PLACE
KATOU
300 MILLION VOTES
...THIS!
YAY! 300 MILLION VOTES!
C-SAN, EVEN THOUGH YOU PUT IN FIVE MILLION VOTES FOR ME...
SECOND PLACE
C-SAN'S BOYFRIEND
5,000,128 VOTES
THIRD PLACE
PRETTY GIRL
5,064 VOTES
THREE HUNDRED MILLION?! WHAT ARE YOU, BIFIDOBACTERIUM?
A POPULARITY POLL? I DON'T CARE
A-SAN FROM SAGA PREFECTURE, B-SAN FROM TOCHIGI PREFECTURE, EVEN THOUGH YOU PUT IN FIVE THOUSAND VOTES FOR ME...
FOURTH PLACE
SIDE CHARACTER
512 VOTES
IT'S ALL THANKS TO EVERYONE HERE THAT I GOT FIFTH PLACE!
THERE'S NO WAY KATOU COULD BE THAT POPULAR!
THIS ISN'T A POPULARITY POLL. IT'S THE STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTION!
IT'S TIME TO FACE FACTS.
N-NO. NO, I CAN'T ACCEPT THIS!
WHO COULD HAVE IMAGINED THESE RESULTS?
SO KATOU-KUN WILL BE ELECTED STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT?

THAT'S ALL, FOLKS! VOTE KATOU!
NICE GOING, KATOU!
THAT WAS HILARI-OUS!
CHEER
あはは…
AHAHAHA
HAR HAR
ゲラゲラ
HUH?!
AM I THE ONE NOT ACCEPTING REALITY?
IF THINGS KEEP GOING THIS WAY..
NEW SONG
KATOU'S MUSICA SUITE
KATOU
WHISPER
WHISPER
WH-WHAT DO I DO?! WHAT DO I DO?!
CHEER
CHEER
WH-WHAT'S WITH ALL THIS EXCITE-MENT?
I WAS SO ABSORBED IN THEIR CONVERSA-TION THAT I FORGOT TO WATCH KATOU

IT'S NOT TOO LATE! WHY DON'T I RUN FOR STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT?
CHEER
I KNOW!
IF IT'S JUST LIKE MI-KAGE-KUN SAID...
IF BEING THE ODDBALL CANDIDATE GETS YOU THE MOST VOTES...
...THEN AS LONG AS I USE THIS COSTUME...
I'M ANNOUNC-ING MY CAND--
BAM
I CAN STAND OUT EVEN MORE THAN KATOU'S EYE-SORE OF A PERFOR-MANCE!
BAM

SAE-JIMA?!
YOU'RE IN YOUR COSTUME ALREADY? YOU'RE SO MOTIVATED!
THE PARKING LOT IS OVER THERE!
I CAME TO PICK YOU UP.
GRAB
ENA!
IS THAT SO? I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, BUT GOOD FOR HIM!
IF I DON'T DO ANYTHING, HE'S GOING TO GET FIRST PLACE!
IF I DON'T DO ANYTHING
WHAM
バターン!!
NO! I WAS GOING TO USE THIS COSTUME TO--
LET'S HURRY! WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO.
I HOPE HE DOES HIS BEST.
KATOU-KUN SURE LOOKS POPULAR.
CHEER
CHEER
CHEER
AHH!
VRROOM
I HOPE YOU KEEP THAT WINNING ATTITUDE WHEN IT COMES TO SELLING YOUR NEW CD TOO!

English Digital Edition
Chapter 049

Takahashi-san is listening.
高橋さんが聞いている。
Yu Hokuo

高橋さんが聞いている。, Vol S ©201S Yu Hokuo/SQUARE ENIX CO., LTD.
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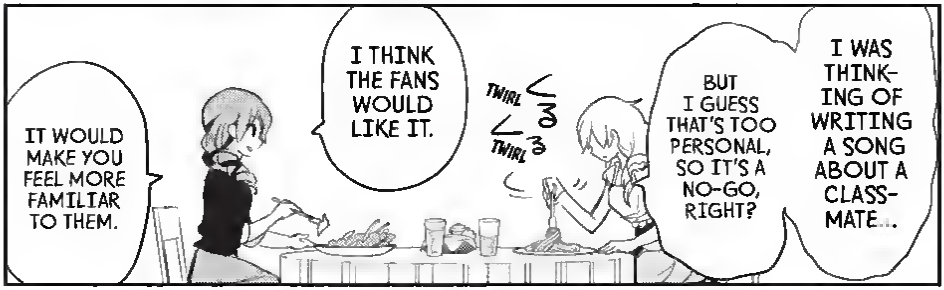
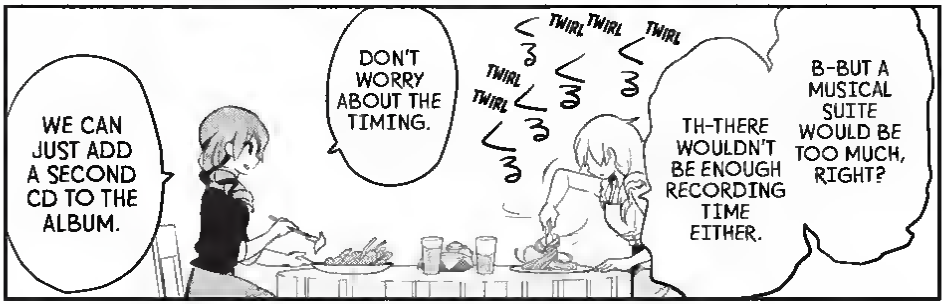
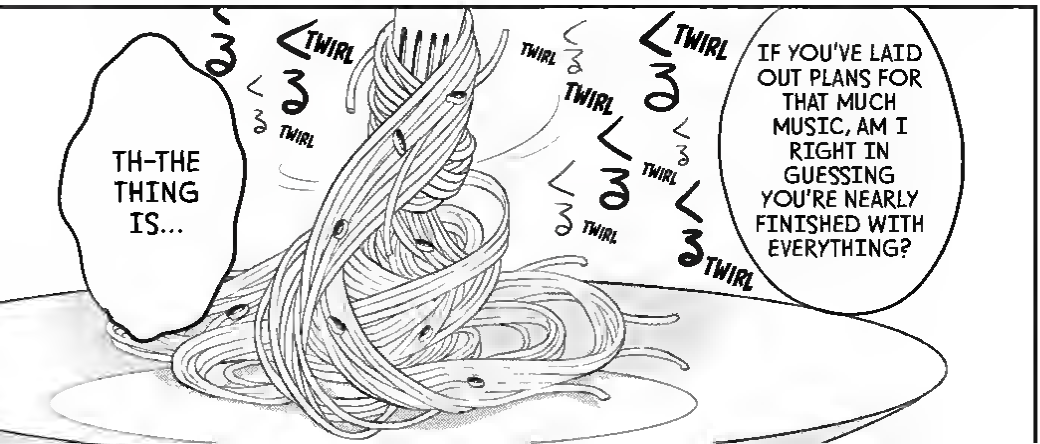
is listening.
高橋さんが聞いている。

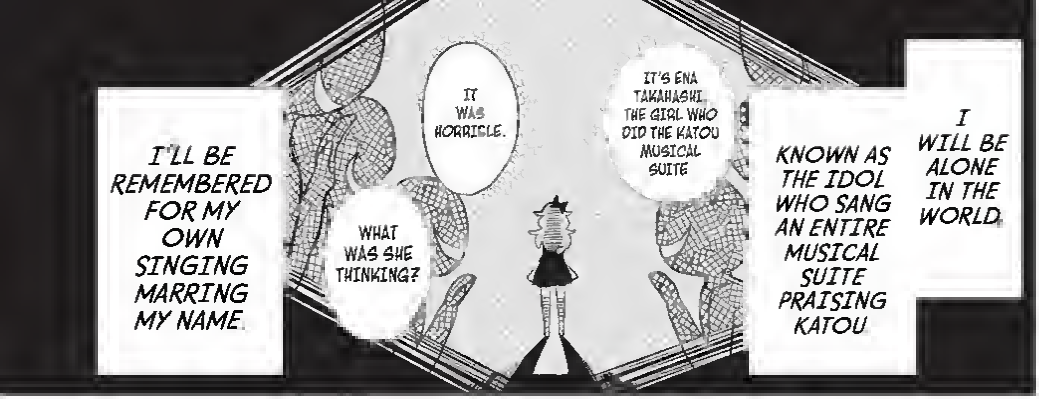
CHAPTER 50
THE FUN STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTION, PART 3


IT WOULD MAKE YOU FEEL MORE FAMILIAR TO THEM.
I THINK THE FANS WOULD LIKE IT.
TWIRL
TWIRL
BUT I GUESS THAT'S TOO PERSONAL, SO IT'S A NO-GO, RIGHT?
I WAS THINK-ING OF WRITING A SONG ABOUT A CLASS-MATE...


WE CAN JUST ADD A SECOND CD TO THE ALBUM.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE TIMING.
TWIRL
TWIRL
TWIRL
TWIRL
TWIRL
TH-THERE WOULDN'T BE ENOUGH RECORDING TIME EITHER.
B-BUT A MUSICAL SUITE WOULD BE TOO MUCH, RIGHT?



THE THING IS...
NEW STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT
KATOU
SEXY Shirt
WOW, I NEVER SAW THIS COMING.
...
IT'S TOO BAD, REALLY.
HMM, BUT...
IT REALLY IS TOO BAD.
I-I-IT REALLY IS TOO BAD. TOO BAD...
EEP!
LET'S GIVE HER SOME SPACE
THERE'S NO USE CRY-ING OVER SPILT MILK.


I'LL BE REMEMBERED FOR MY OWN SINGING MARRING MY NAME.
IT WAS HORRIBLE.
WHAT WAS SHE THINKING?
IT'S ENA TAKAHASHI. THE GIRL WHO DID THE KATOU MUSICAL SUITE
KNOWN AS THE IDOL WHO SANG AN ENTIRE MUSICAL SUITE PRAISING KATOU
I WILL BE ALONE IN THE WORLD.

WHY AREN'T YOU GOING INTO THE CLASS-ROOM?
NARA-KUN?
TREMBLE
I'M SHAKEN BY AN UNEASE THAT'S TAKEN ME TO AN ALL-TIME LOW.

ARE YOUR SHOES GLUED TO THE FLOOR THERE?
MI-KAGE?
AT A TIME OF SUCH GREAT UNEASE...

I SEE.
THEN WHY?
NO, IT'S NOT AS THOUGH I CAN'T MOVE MY FEET OR ANYTHING.
...THE BEST WAY TO GET BACK TO NORMAL...

AFTER ALL, I JUST SORT OF HAPPENED TO OVERHEAR THEM TALKING!
I'LL EAVES-DROP!
THIS SHOULD CHEER ME UP!
REGRET?
I-IS THERE SOMETHING BOTHERING NARA-KUN ABOUT KATOU BECOMING PRESIDENT TOO?
IT'S BECAUSE I'M FILLED WITH SUCH GREAT REGRET THAT I CANNOT BRING MYSELF TO ENTER YOU UNDERSTAND, I'M SURE
THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH KATOU!
I FORGOT TO BRING THE HOMEWORK WE NEED TO HAND IN FOR CLASS TODAY.
I CAN'T BELIEVE I COULD BE SO FOOLISH.

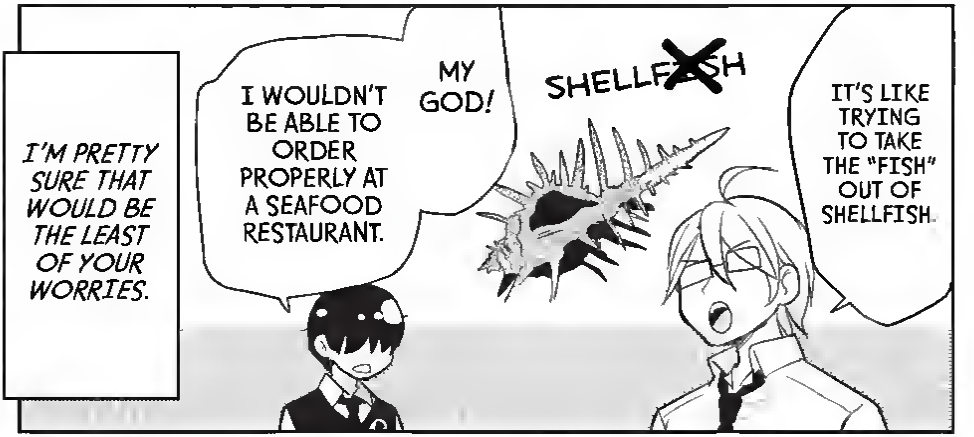
I REMEMBER SEEING IT ON THE TABLE THIS MORNING.
WELL IT DOESN'T DO YOU MUCH GOOD THERE.
I GUESS THIS A SERIOUS FAILURE FOR NARA-KUN.
BUT DON'T LET IT GET TO YOU.
ACTUALLY, I FORGOT TO DO MY HOMEWORK TOO
NOW WE'RE COMPAN-IONS IN FORGET-TING TO DO--
WAIT.
I DIDN'T FORGET TO DO MY HOME-WORK.
I JUST FORGOT IT! AT HOME!
DID YOU REALLY NEED TO CLARIFY THAT?
IT'S ALL THE SAME THING.
IT IS NOT.
ON ONE HAND, THERE'S A TOTAL ABSENCE.
ON THE OTHER, WE HAVE EFFORT BUT LACK THE RESULT!
THERE'S A DIFFER-ENCE.
CONSIDER THE SITUA-TION FROM ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE WHAT IF, INSTEAD OF HOMEWORK

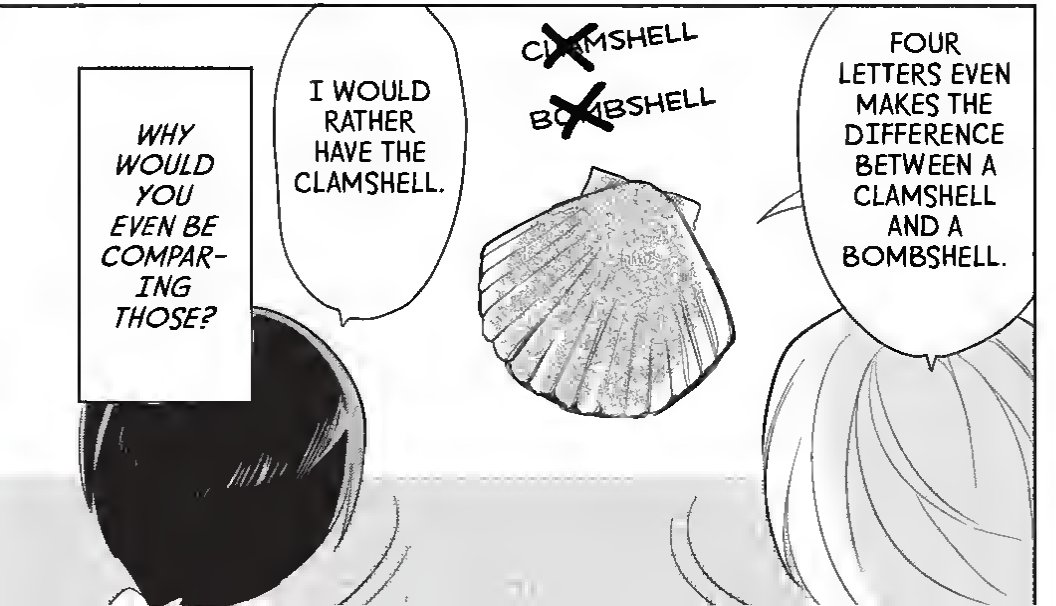
...WE APPLY THIS LOGIC TO THE ORIGIN OF LIFE!
WATER, VEGETATION... EVEN THE HEAVENS AND EARTH AS WE KNOW THEM WOULD CEASE TO EXIST.
ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE GOD OR SOMETHING?!
FLOP
INDEED, WE'D BE IN TROUBLE.
THIS TIME, LET'S COMPARE "I FORGOT MY HOMEWORK" AND "I FORGOT TO DO MY HOMEWORK"
TO DO
IT'S ONLY TWO SHORT WORDS DIFFERENCE.
ONLY TWO SHORT WORDS, YOU SAY?!
TODO
DO YOU KNOW...
...HOW GREAT AN INFLUENCE THOSE FOUR LITTLE LETTERS CAN HAVE?

FOR EXAMPLE, TRY TAKING AWAY TO AND DO FROM...
...TOODLES AND DOWDY. WHAT NOW?!
SAY IT FOR ME.
I-I CAN'T!
I JUST CAN'T...
?
WHAT'S HE HESITATING FOR?
HE CAN JUST TAKE THE TO FROM TOODLES AND DO FROM DOWDY AND SAY THEM OUT LOUD.
ODLES... WDY...
I CAN'T SAY THEM EITHER!
THEY'RE WORDS THAT SIMPLY CANNOT PASS MY LIPS.
THAT'S LITERALLY TRUE!
IT WOULD INFLUENCE FOREIGN WORDS TOO!
IF WE LOST "TO DO"...

THE LEGENDARY MASTODON WOULD JUST BE A MAS'N!
THAT SOUNDS KIND OF CUTE.
THE NOT-SO-LEGENDARY MAS'N
MAS'N?!
THAT SOUNDS LIKE A SMALLER, CUTER VERSION. CAN I PET IT?
HE'S GOT A PRETTY FAVORABLE IMPRESS-ION OF THE WORD.
MAS'N
CALM DOWN. IT WAS PRACTI-CALLY A DINOSAUR
IT MIGHT CRUSH YOU IF YOU TRIED TO PET IT.
OH, REALLY?
THERE ARE PLENTY OF OTHER WORDS THAT HAVE "TO DO" IN THEM.
I THINK THE EXAMPLE THAT COMES TO EVERYONE'S MIND IMMEDIATELY
LET'S SEE.. TORNADO?

ORTHODONTIST
...IS ORTHODONTIST.
THAT CAME TO MIND FIRST?
SEE? THAT BECOMES MEANINGLESS TOO!


I'M PRETTY SURE THAT WOULD BE THE LEAST OF YOUR WORRIES.
I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO ORDER PROPERLY AT A SEAFOOD RESTAURANT.
MY GOD!
SHELLFISH
IT'S LIKE TRYING TO TAKE THE "FISH" OUT OF SHELLFISH.


WHY WOULD YOU EVEN BE COMPARING THOSE?
I WOULD RATHER HAVE THE CLAMSHELL.
CLAMSHELL
BOMBSHELL
FOUR LETTERS EVEN MAKES THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A CLAMSHELL AND A BOMBSHELL.

LAMPSHELL
WORM SHELL
ARCA SHELL
ROCK SHELL
IT'S THE SAME WITH LAMPSHELLS AND WORM SHELLS AND ARCA SHELLS AND ROCK SHELLS AND...
WE'D HAVE QUITE A COLLECTION OF SHELLS.
THEY'RE ALL JUST SHELLS ANYWAY!
WHUMP
HOW ABOUT IT? DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE VALUE FOUR LETTERS CAN HAVE NOW?
YES, ESPECIALLY WHAT IT MEANS TO DO THINGS
WHEN YOU FIRST BEGAN TALKING ABOUT LIFE ITSELF,
I THOUGHT YOU WERE MAKING A BIG DEAL OUT OF NOTHING...
...BUT NOW I SEE A DEEPER MEANING IN IT ALL.
THE ACT OF DOING REPRESENTS SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT.

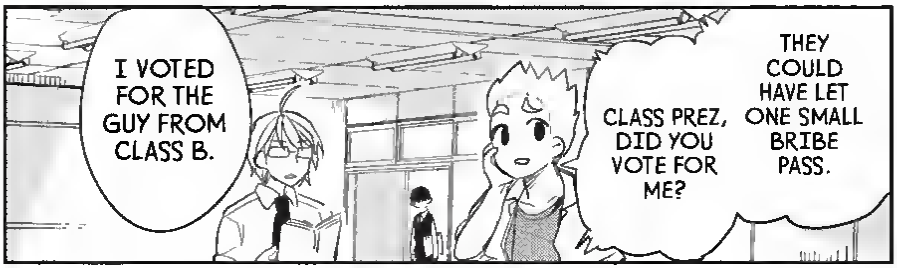
WITHOUT THE ABILITY TO DO AND ACT,
WE'RE ALL JUST HOLLOW SHELLS OF EXISTENCE.
THIS CONVERSATION HAS GONE FROM FORGETTING HOMEWORK TO EXISTENTIAL PUNS!
PHEW. THAT WAS AS FUN AS I'D HOPED.
THANKS TO THEM, I FEEL MUCH BETTER. THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT!
NOW THEN, I GUESS IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DO WHATEVER I CAN
THAT'S RIGHT
SHWOOP

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT EXCUSES YOU MAKE.
IN THE END, IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE. YOU HAVE TO FINISH WHAT YOU STARTED WHETHER YOU WANT TO DO IT OR NOT.
I WAS STARTING TO FEEL GOOD ABOUT MYSELF,
BUT I STILL HAVEN'T ESCAPED FROM MY NIGHTMARE. THE REALITY OF THE KATOU MUSICAL SUITE...
NOTHING'S CHANGED.
FWOOSH

FLUTTER
URGH!
OOPS!
WHAM
ARE YOU OKAY, TAKAHASHI?
OH, SENSEI I JUST STUMBLED A BIT.
I'M SORRY.
I ALMOST FAINTED.
WHAT'S THIS?
OH, THIS IS SOMETHING OF A PROBLEM WE'RE DEALING WITH.
JEEZ.
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE WANTED VOTES SO BADLY THAT HE DISTRIBUTED LEWD PICTURES TO THE STUDENT BODY
THIS IS ABSOLUTELY UNACCEPTABLE!
THE ELECTION IS SUPPOSED TO BE PRACTICE FOR REAL POLITICS. TO THINK HE'D DO SOMETHING SO DISHONEST...
EXCUSE ME.
THE NEW STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT HAS BEEN DISQUALIFIED DUE TO CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.
AS A RESULT, WE WILL HAVE ANOTHER REPRESENTATIVE...

CLAP
I ALWAYS WATCH OVER A PRECIOUS FRIEND OF MINE WHO GIVES HER ALL EVERY DAY FOR OTHERS.
I WANT TO DO THE SAME. I WANT TO BE OF HELP TO EVERYONE...
I'M THE NEW STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT!
SHE'S PRETTY POPULAR
THAT'S BECAUSE SHE'S GOT CHARACTER!
DOES SHE HAVE ANY IDEA THAT SAYAYA ONLY BECAME A CANDIDATE BECAUSE SHE HAPPENED TO SLIP ONTO THE STAGE?
I-IS HER SPEECH THAT TOUCHING?
SO YOU WROTE A SONG ABOUT A CLASSMATE JUST LIKE YOU SAID?
THAT'S RIGHT, SAEJIMA!

HERE IT IS!
IT'S ABOUT A FRIEND OF MINE WHO DID HER BEST TO BECOME THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT!
IT'S A SUPER LONG MUSICAL SUITE!
MAKE SURE THE ARRANGE-MENT GOES OFF WITH-OUT A HITCH!
LEAVE IT TO ME! EVEN TWO CDS ISN'T ENOUGH FOR YOU.


I VOTED FOR THE GUY FROM CLASS B.
CLASS PREZ, DID YOU VOTE FOR ME?
THEY COULD HAVE LET ONE SMALL BRIBE PASS.

THAT'S EXACTLY WHY.
WHY?! I MADE SURE TO PUT A GIRLIE PICTURE IN YOUR DESK!

English Digital Edition
Chapter 050

Takahashi-san is listening.
高橋さんが聞いている。
Yu Hokuo

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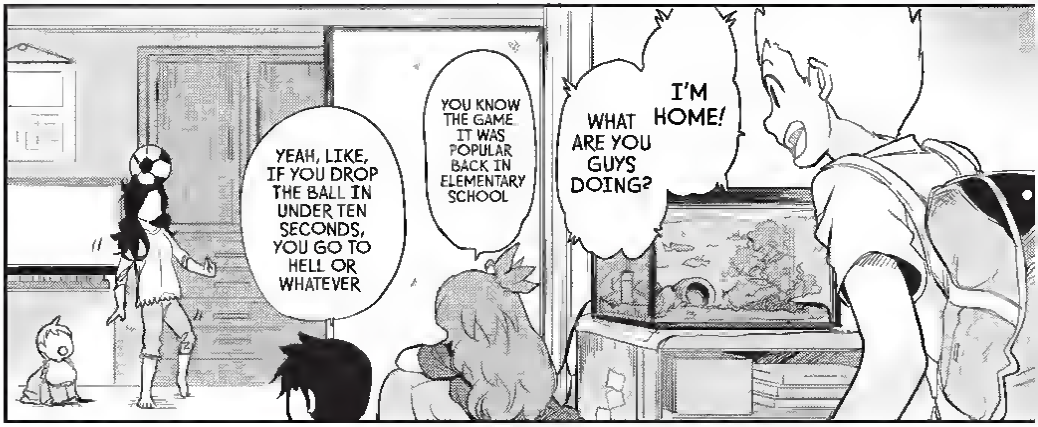
EXTRA CHAPTER
TAKAHASHI-SAN ISN'T LISTENING AT NIGHT

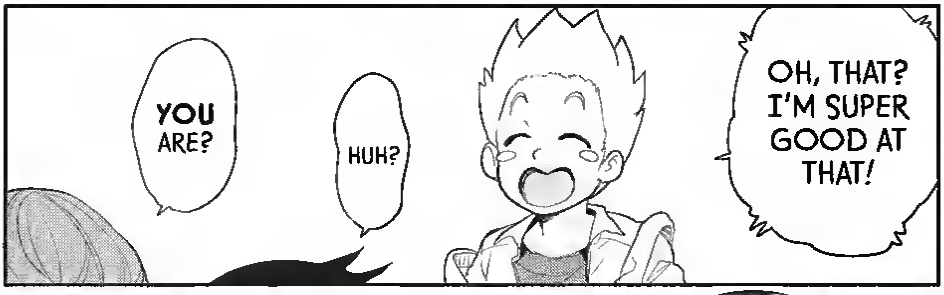
WHEN PRODUCER SAEJIMA IS COMPLETELY OFF DUTY

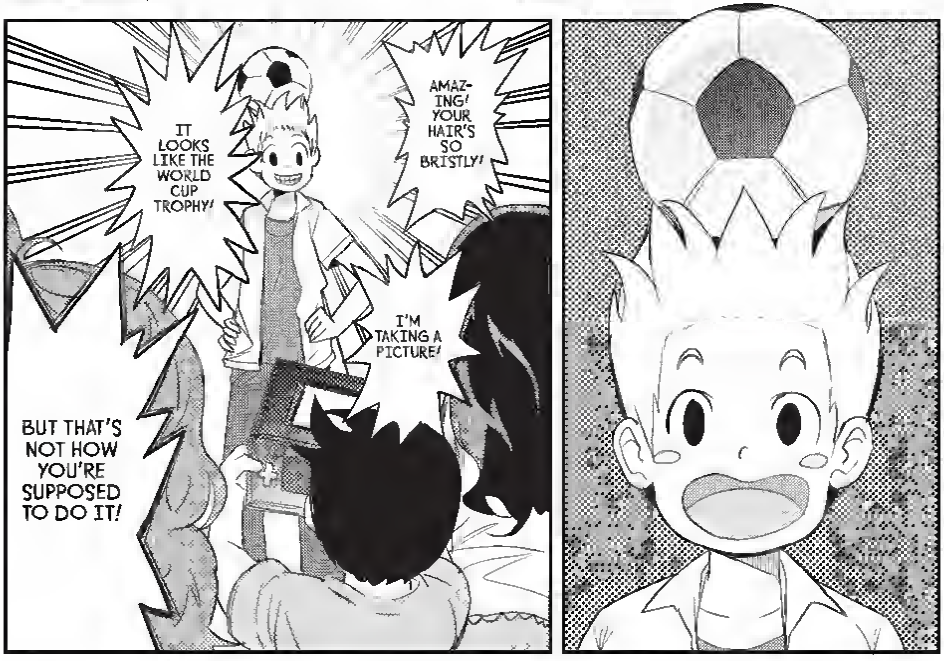
THIS ALL HAPPENED WHEN TAKAHASHI-SAN WASN'T AROUND.
HELLO THERE. I'VE JUST MOVED IN NEXT DOOR
IS NOW A GOOD TIME?
SURE, NOW'S FINE.
OH MY. CASTELLA.
I QUITE LIKE THESE.
"IT'S SUCH A POROUS TREAT."
NO, THAT SOUNDS WEIRD... LIKE A KITCHEN SPONGE...
"IT'S SUCH A HOLLOW TREAT."
NO, THAT SOUNDS LIKE AN INSULT...
FIVE MINUTES LATER
"IT'S SUCH A LIGHT TREAT."
"A FLUFFY..."
"...WUFFY."
SHE'S SO BEAUTIFUL
IT FEELS LIKE TIME IS STANDING STILL.

ENA-CHII?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING AT MY HOUSE?
IT MIGHT KEEP SURPRISING ME.
I'LL COVER IT WITH ANOTHER POSTER UNTIL I GET USED TO IT.
OH, IT'S JUST A POSTER!
I FORGOT THAT I HUNG IT UP YESTERDAY.
ALL BETTER!
MOM, I'M GOING TO BED.
Tuna University

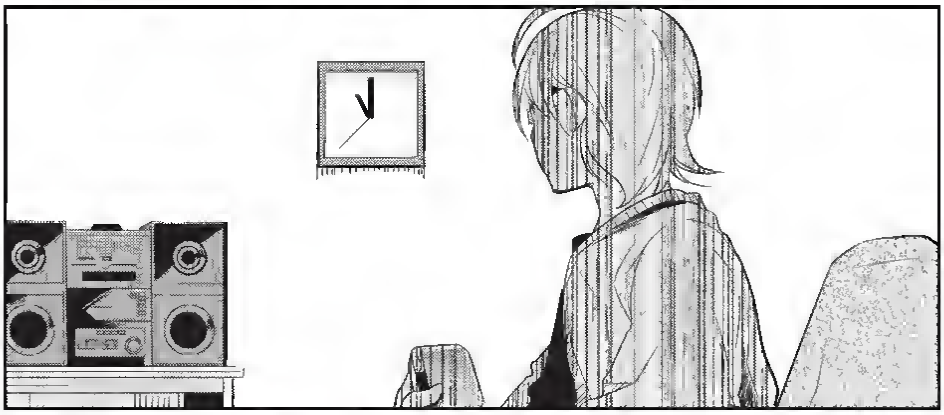
I BET SHE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SIT STILL AFTER READING A HANDWRITTEN LETTER FROM ME.
HMPH. I WONDER IF I SHOULD GRACE ENA TAKAHASHI WITH A LOVE LETTER DIRECTLY FROM YOURS TRULY
PING
FWOOSH
GLUG
GLUG
BARKEEP! FOUNTAIN PEN INK!
TAB
FWOOSH
CHAK !!
OOPS! BARKEEP, A FOUNTAIN PEN, TOO!
...THAT I'M GLAD I QUIT THE OFFICE LIFE TO OPEN MY OWN BAR.
IT'S TIMES LIKE THIS WHEN I CAN PERFECTLY FULFILL A CUSTOMER'S REQUEST...
NO, IT'S THANKS TO HER! HMPH! HA HA HA! THANKS TO HER!
TH-THIS PAIN IS INDIRECTLY ENA TAKA-HASHI'S FAULT!
AUGH! THAT HURTS!

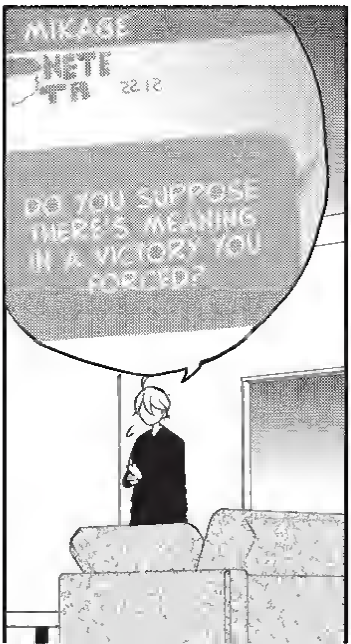

I'M HOME!
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING?
YOU KNOW THE GAME IT WAS POPULAR BACK IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
YEAH, LIKE, IF YOU DROP THE BALL IN UNDER TEN SECONDS, YOU GO TO HELL OR WHATEVER

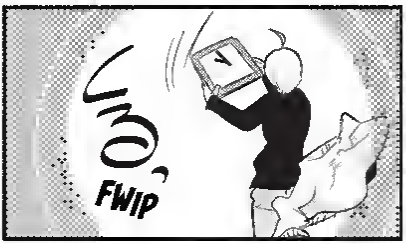

OH, THAT? I'M SUPER GOOD AT THAT!
HUH?
YOU ARE?

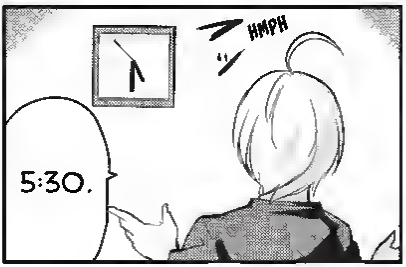

AMAZING! YOUR HAIR'S SO BRISTLY!
IT LOOKS LIKE THE WORLD CUP TROPHY!
I'M TAKING A PICTURE!
BUT THAT'S NOT HOW YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO DO IT!

I'LL HAVE TO START STUDYING TO GET INTO UNIVERSITY SOON
I SHOULD CONSIDER CUTTING BACK ON MY GAME TIME
BUT I DON'T THINK HALF AN HOUR COULD HURT.




MIKAGE
DO YOU SUPPOSE THERE'S MEANING IN A VICTORY YOU FORCED?


FWIP


HMPH
5:30.

MY NEW SKETCH-BOOK...
IT'S AN IMPORT.
SALE Special Price
RUSTLE RUSTLE
MIKAGE-KUN
AND HOW WELL IT TURNS
GOOD
LET'S TEST HOW THE PEN FEELS
GOOD
FIFTEEN MINUTES AND THIRTY-TWO SECONDS.
ACCEPTED
FLOP

THE NEXT FEW CHAPTERS ARE FROM BEFORE I WAS SERIALLY PUBLISHING IN A MAGAZINE. WHEN THE SERIALIZATION BEGAN, I HAD TO SCRAP ALL MY PREVIOUS WORK, SO I PUT MY HEART AND SOUL INTO WORKING WITH MY EDITOR AFTER THAT. HAVING MY SERIES, *TAKAHASHI-SAN IS LISTENING*, BECOME SERIALIZED IN *GANGANJOKER* SAVED ME IN A LOT OF WAYS. I COULD FINALLY GIVE UP MY POOR LIFESTYLE, FOR ONE.

SINCE THE MANGA HEREAFTER IS OLD, IT'S SOMEWHAT EMBARRASSING. IS WHAT I SHOULD BE TELLING YOU, BUT I ACTUALLY LIKE THE OLD MATERIAL TOO. I KNOW THAT IT'S NOT THAT WELL DONE, BUT I STILL LIKE THE ART. I KNOW I CAN'T RELEASE ANYTHING THAT I DON'T HAVE CONFIDENCE IN, SO I ALWAYS ENDEAVOR TO ENSURE MY ART LOOKS AS GOOD AS POSSIBLE.

I HOPE YOU ENJOY THIS *TAKAHASHI-SAN* FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE.

English Digital Edition
Chapter 050.20

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UNSERIALIZED CHAPTER 1
TAKAHASHI-SAN OF THE LOCKER

ENA TAKA-HASHI, HIGH SCHOOL GIRL AND IDOL...
...HAS A HOBBY THAT SHE CAN'T TELL ANYONE.
THAT IS...
THERE'S JUST SOMETHING THAT'S NOT VERY EXCITING ABOUT YOU
THREE DAYS AGO

NOT...
NOT VERY EXCIT-ING?
A LOT OF GIRLS THESE DAYS...
TRY TO DISTIN-GUISH THEMSELVES WITH THEIR HOBBIES. DO YOU HAVE ANY?
UH
YEAH.
LIVE CONCERT FOR ALL OUR NEW IDOLS
WELL...
JUST AS I THOUGHT!
"YOU NEED A HOBBY THAT YOU'RE PASSION-ATE ABOUT THAT MAKES YOUR HEART RACE!"
"IF YOU DON'T HAVE ONE, YOU CAN'T STAND OUT."
ENA-CHII HASN'T BEEN TOO UPBEAT LATELY
THAT'S JUST NO GOOD.

I KNOW WHAT HE MEANS...
BUT I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANY HOBBIES THAT ENTHRALL ME.
I GET BORED OF ANYTHING I TRY.
I MEAN, IF THAT WEREN'T THE CASE, I NEVER WOULD'VE TRIED BEING AN IDOL.
I GUESS I CAN'T USE THAT AS AN EXCUSE.
ENA-CHII, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
JUST THE WASH-ROOM.
VACANT CLASSROOM FOR SELF-STUDY
I WAS PRETTY SURE I'D BE OKAY AT BEING AN IDOL TOO...
SOB
SOB
SOB
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
S-SOME-ONE CAME IN?!
UH...

I GUESS WE CAN USE THIS CLASSROOM TO CHANGE FOR GYM FROM NOW ON.
THE EMPTY CLASSROOM WE USUALLY USE IS BEING RENOVATED, SO WE CAN'T DO IT THERE.
UH... HUH?
WHAT AM I DOING HERE?
DOESN'T THIS KIND OF MAKE ME...
...SOME KIND OF PERVERT?
IF THEY FIND ME, IT'S ALL OVER!
STOP!
MONSTER!
YOU'RE SECRETLY FILMING US, AREN'T YOU?
LIKE A SURVEILLANCE CAMERA!
NOOOOO!
WHAP!

NOW I'M NOT JUST A PERVERT, BUT AN EAVES-DROPPER. I'M THE WORST!
UGH. IF I HOLD MY BREATH, I CAN EVEN HEAR THEM
I'M REALLY A NO-GOOD JERK.
I GUESS EVERY-ONE'S GOT SOME-THING TO WORRY ABOUT
...
I'M GARBAGE, I GUESS?
NO, I AM.
NARA-KUN, I DON'T THINK YOU'RE THAT BAD.
D-DOES THAT BOTHER YOU THAT MUCH?
SOME OF THE CON-TENTS OF THE MASTERPIECE "RUN, MELOS!"
YOU JUST CAN'T REMEM-BER.
YOU'RE GOING TOO FAR.
YOU COULD EVEN SAY I'M NOT QUALIFIED TO BE CLASS REP-RESENTA TIVE
I WONDER ...
LET ME THINK.
I DON'T KNOW IF HE RODE A HORSE...
...MELOS RODE A HORSE OR NOT?!
IN THE MIDDLE OF RUNNING, CAN YOU REMEMBER IF
THEN LET ME ASK YOU, MIKAGE, CAN YOU REMEMBER EITHER?

BUT I DO KNOW HE RODE A MOTOR-BIKE.
HE DID NOT!
I ALMOST THREW A RETORT IN THERE WITHOUT THINK-ING!
THAT WAS CLOSE. HOW COULD I HAVE ALMOST LET THAT SLIP OUT?
HE DID NOT!
A MOTOR-BIKE?!
PERHAPS SO .
HE WAS IN A RUSH, AFTER ALL!
STUPID!
AH! AGAIN!
NOT THAT I HAVE A LICENSE AT THE MOMENT.
I WOULD RIDE ONE TOO IF I HAD AN IMPORT-ANT TASK BEFORE ME,
I WILL BE THE KING OF BIKES!
THAT'S THE KIND OF ADULT I WANT TO BECOME!
NOW HE'S EVEN DECIDING HIS FUTURE.

I...
I NEVER KNEW...
NO NO NO NO!
THANK YOU, MIKAGE YOU'RE REALLY A GREAT GUY.
HEH HEH
CABINET MINISTER?!
WHEN THE TIME COMES, I'LL BE YOUR BIKE CABINET MINISTER
I'LL CHEER YOU ON, NARA-KUN.
WHY WAS MELOS IN SUCH A RUSH AGAIN?
ANYWAY...
THAT MIKAGE-KUN, THE MOST UNOBTRUSIVE MEMBER OF OUR WHOLE CLASS...
AND OUR CLASS REPRESENTATIVE, NARA-KUN, FAMOUS FOR BEING SO SERIOUS...
HE HAD TO SAVE SOMEONE.
YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT ONE.
I NEVER KNEW THESE TWO...
...HAD SUCH FUNNY CONVERSATIONS!
WHO WAS HE TRYING TO SAVE AGAIN?
OH, YEAH, I GUESS THAT KIND OF SOUNDS FAMILIAR
THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION IS OBVIOUS

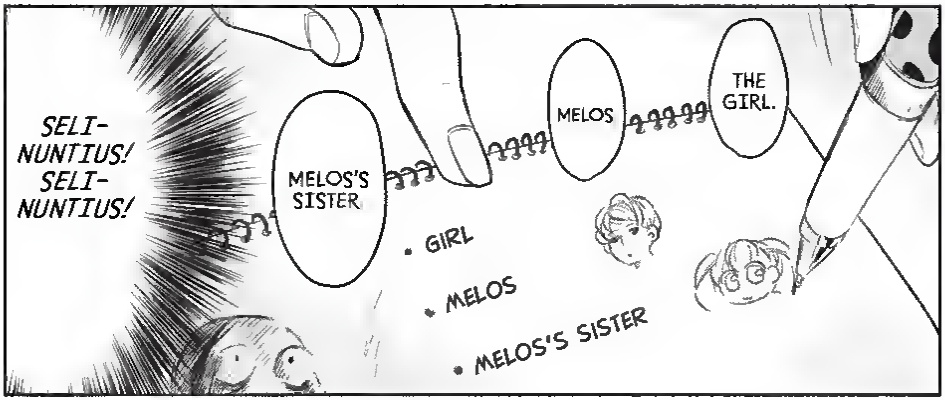
HIS YOUNGER SISTER.
IT WAS SELI-NUNTIUS!
OH YEAH, HIS SISTER! SHE WAS IN THE STORY
EVERYONE CAN UNDERSTAND THE DESIRE TO SAVE YOUR LITTLE SISTER
RIGHT!
I'D LIKE TO TRY SAVING ONE MYSELF ONE DAY.
A LITTLE SISTER, THAT IS!
YEAH!
IT'S GOTTA BE A LITTLE SISTER.
SELI-NUNTIUS IS CRYING RIGHT NOW!
MELOS WAS FURIOUS.
NARA
MIKAGE

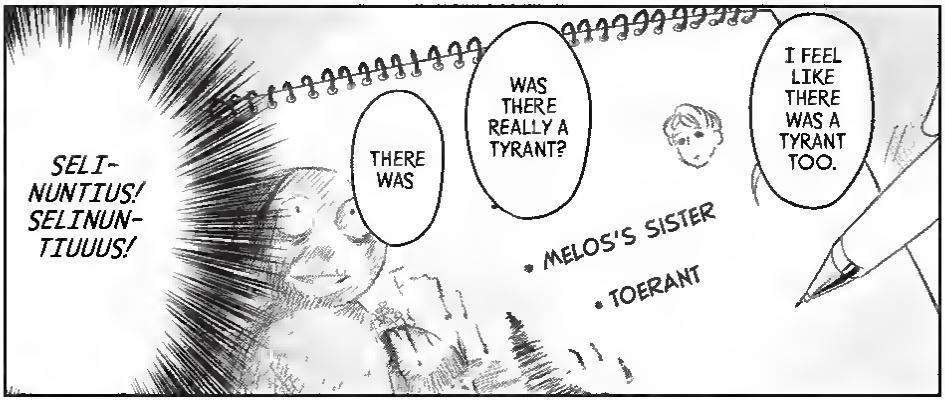
HEEEY!
THIS IS STARTING TO SOUND LIKE SOME MOTOR-GANG STORY.
THUS, HE JUMPED ON HIS MOTOR-BIKE...
...AND WENT TO SAVE HIS SISTER.
TH-THIS IS NO GOOD. LOOK AT ME
I'VE GOTTEN COM-PLETELY WRAPPED UP IN EAVES-DROPPING ON THEM
I SHOULD COVER MY EARS
I NEED TO STOP
THIS IS SUCH A DIRTY THING TO DO
.. BUT MY HEART IS RACING.
THA-THUMP
IT'S LIKE MY SOUL IS COMING TO LIFE WHAT IS THIS ELECTRIC FEELING?
THA-THUMP
WAIT, NARA-KUN.
I JUST REMEM-BERED A VERY IMPORTANT CHARACTER.

I'M JUST TOO CURIOUS!
THERE'S ANOTHER IMPORTANT CHARACTER?!
FATHER... IS THAT YOU, FATHER?!
H-HIS LONG-LOST FATHER?
CALM DOWN. I'M NOT YOUR FATHER.
WE ALL KNOW THAT.

THE CHARACTER I REMEMBERED...
WAS THE GIRL WHO HANDED MELOS A CLOAK...
AFTER HE NEARLY ENDED UP STARK NAKED ON HIS JOURNEY
HER?!
THERE'S A FAR MORE IMPORTANT CHARACTER YOU'RE STILL MISSING

ARGH! I KNOW I CAN'T GET CAUGHT,
BUT I JUST CAN'T KEEP CALM! THIS IS DRIVING ME CRAZY!
HER?!
IN OTHER WORDS, IF WE WERE TO MAP OUT ALL THE CHARACTERS, IT WOULD LOOK SOMETHING LIKE THIS
OH, YOU CARRY A SKETCHBOOK?
IT'S ESSENTIAL ETIQUETTE FOR ANY GENTLEMAN


SELI-NUNTIUS! SELI-NUNTIUS!
MELOS'S SISTER
MELOS
THE GIRL.
• GIRL
• MELOS
• MELOS'S SISTER


SELI-NUNTIUS! SELINUN-TIUUUS!
THERE WAS
WAS THERE REALLY A TYRANT?
I FEEL LIKE THERE WAS A TYRANT TOO.
• MELOS'S SISTER
• TOERANT

SELINUN-TIUUUS! SELINUN-TIUUUS!
HMM
IT FEELS LIKE WE'RE MISSING SOMEONE
TYRANT
SELI! NUN!
I'D LIKE A CAT.
HOW ABOUT WE ADD A DOG?

NOW..

NOW I'VE DONE IT.

NOW I'LL BE THAT GIRL WHO BURST OUT OF A LOCKER IN THE BOY'S CHANGING ROOM...

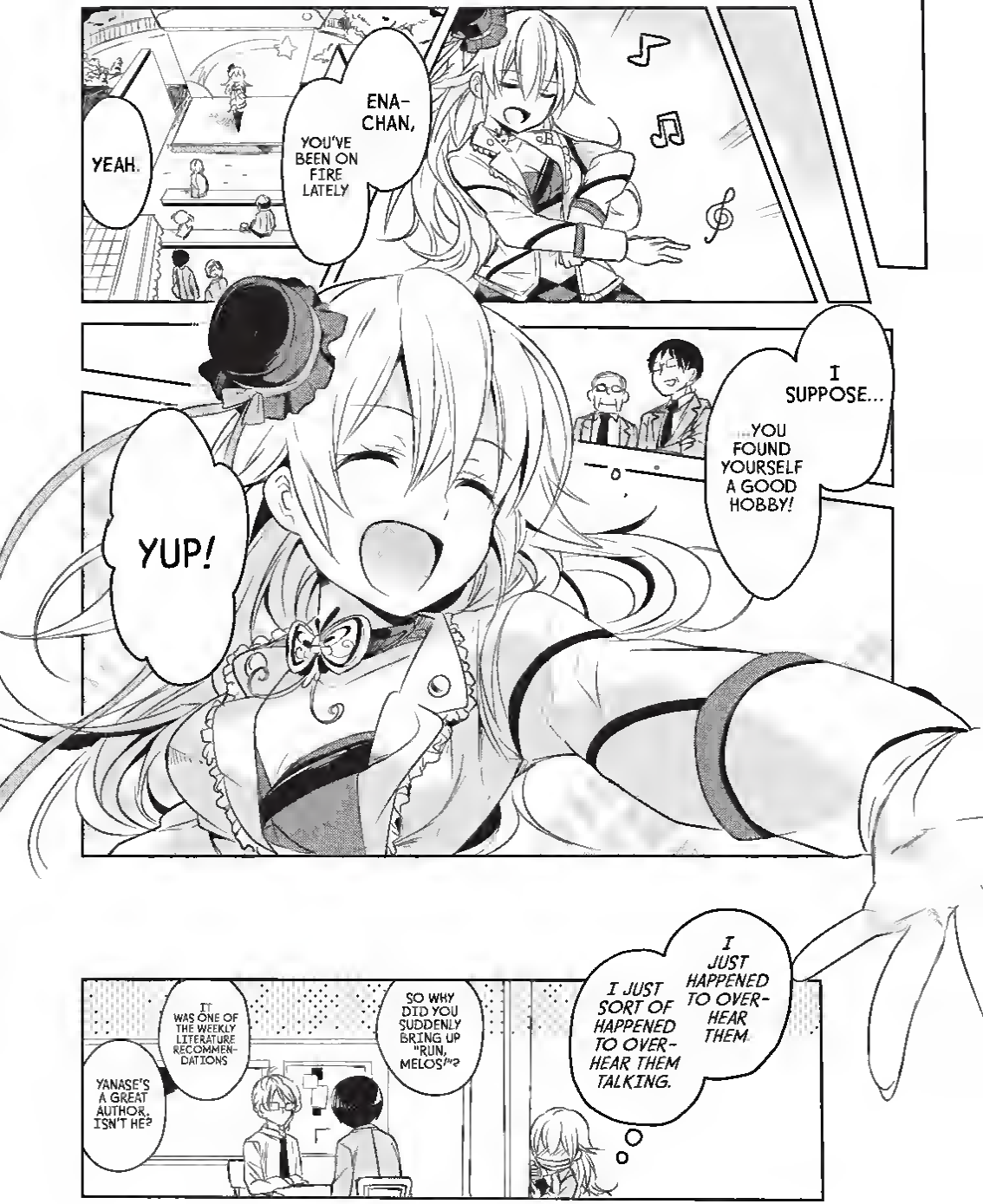
...WHILE SCREAMING "TIUS!" AT THE TOP OF HER LUNGS

THEY'LL ALL THINK I'M A PERVERT!

A PERVERT WITH NO CHANCE OF PAROLE!

A FAILURE TO SOCIETY!

DID YOU HEAR SOME-THING BACK THERE?
LET'S HURRY WE'RE THE LAST ONES
SILENCE
シーン
HUH?
I'M SAVED!
I'M--
ENA-CHII, YOU'RE GOING TO MISS GYM!
PHEW! I'M SO RELIEVED.
I WISH I COULD HAVE HEARD MORE.
MORE...


ENA-CHAN, YOU'VE BEEN ON FIRE LATELY
YEAH.
I SUPPOSE... ...YOU FOUND YOURSELF A GOOD HOBBY!
YUP!
I JUST HAPPENED TO OVER-HEAR THEM.
I JUST SORT OF HAPPENED TO OVER-HEAR THEM TALKING.
SO WHY DID YOU SUDDENLY BRING UP "RUN, MELOS!"?
IT WAS ONE OF THE WEEKLY LITERATURE RECOMMEN-DATIONS
YANASE'S A GREAT AUTHOR, ISN'T HE?

English Digital Edition
Chapter 050.40

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高橋さんが聞いている。
Yu Hokuo

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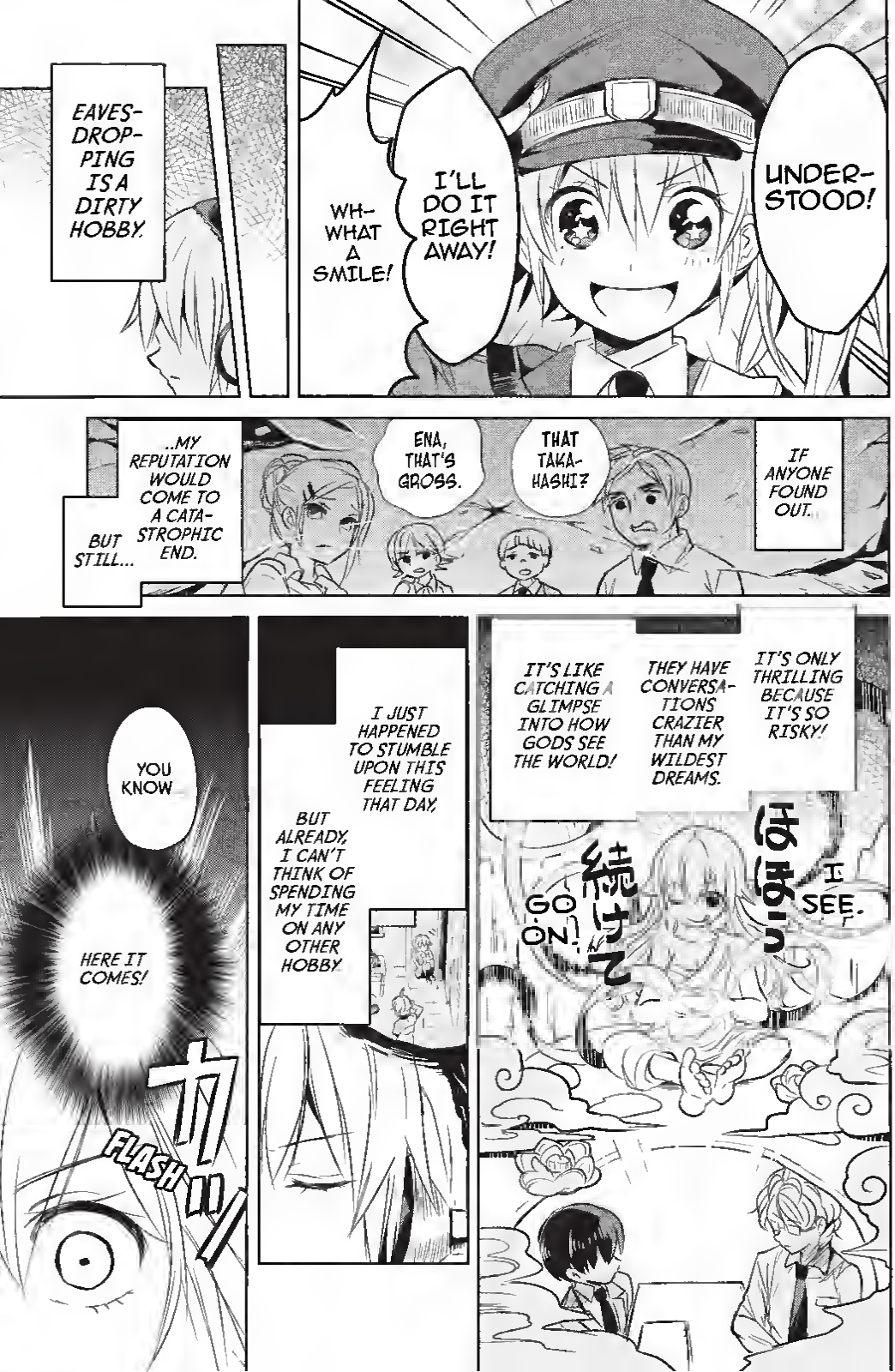
TAKA-HASHI'S PRETTY CUTE, RIGHT?
SHE'S GOT A PRETTY COOL AURA ABOUT HER.
RUMOR HAS IT THAT SHE'S ACTUALLY ACTIVE IN THE IDOL BUSINESS.
SERI-OUSLY?
THEN DO YOU THINK SHE'S LISTENING TO A DEMO RIGHT NOW?

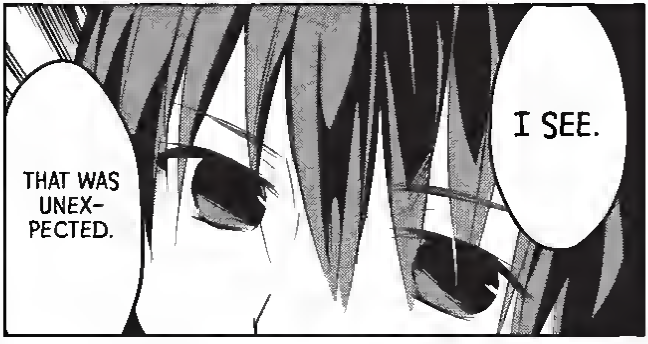
NO SOUND
THREE DAYS AGO
CHIEF OF POLICE FOR THE DAY
ENA-CHAN, IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE NOT PERFORMING WELL AGAIN
HOW ABOUT YOU TAKE SOME TIME TO BLOW OFF SOME STEAM WITH YOUR NEW HOBBY?
M-MY HOBBY?


EAVES-DROPPING IS A DIRTY HOBBY.
WH-WHAT A SMILE!
I'LL DO IT RIGHT AWAY!
UNDER-STOOD!
..MY REPUTATION WOULD COME TO A CATA-STROPHIC END.
BUT STILL...
ENA, THAT'S GROSS.
THAT TAKA-HASHI?
IF ANYONE FOUND OUT.
YOU KNOW
HERE IT COMES!
カッ!!
FLASH!!
I JUST HAPPENED TO STUMBLE UPON THIS FEELING THAT DAY.
BUT ALREADY, I CAN'T THINK OF SPENDING MY TIME ON ANY OTHER HOBBY.
IT'S LIKE CATCHING A GLIMPSE INTO HOW GODS SEE THE WORLD!
THEY HAVE CONVERSA-TIONS CRAZIER THAN MY WILDEST DREAMS.
IT'S ONLY THRILLING BECAUSE IT'S SO RISKY!
ほほう
I SEE.
続けて
GO ON!

THE TRUTH IS...
I JUST HAPPENED TO OVER-HEAR THEM!
THAT'S ALL! I JUST SORT OF HAPPENED TO OVERHEAR THEM TALKING!

WHO'S ASUKA? IS SHE SOME CELEB-RITY?
?

I'M AN ASUKA FAN.


I SEE.
THAT WAS UNEX-PECTED.

OH, ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT AN ANIME?
I WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT YOU'D BE A REI FAN.
IF NOT HER, A MARI FAN.
IS IT REALLY THAT IMPORTANT?
THANK YOU FOR BEING SO HONEST WITH ME
AS CLASS REPRESENTATIVE, I DECIDED TO RESOLVE MYSELF AND ADMIT IT.
BUT I KNEW I'D HAVE TO TELL YOU ONE DAY.
I THOUGHT ABOUT KEEPING IT TO MYSELF,
FAVORITE CHARACTER IN AN ANIME, HUH?
YOU CAN TELL SOMETHING ABOUT A PERSON FROM THEIR PREFERENCES.
NOW THEN, WHO WILL HE CHOOSE?
THE CHARACTER I LIKE MOST IN THAT SERIES...
WHO DO YOU LIKE, MIKAGE?

IT'S NOT A GIRL?!
THE EIGHTEENTH ANGEL, ISOFLAVONE.
NO, WAIT!
THERE ISN'T AN ANGEL LIKE THAT!
ISOFLA-VONE? WHAT KIND OF ANGEL WAS THAT AGAIN?
OH? YOU DON'T REMEMBER?
I KNOW AN EASY WAY TO EXPLAIN IT USING YOUR HANDS.
THAT WAS CLOSE! I NEARLY SAID SOME-THING OUT LOUD AGAIN
THEY ALMOST GOT ME THAT TIME
TREMBLE

?
THEN WRAP YOUR RIGHT THUMB AROUND THE BACK OF YOUR LEFT HAND
NOW FLIP YOUR HANDS AROUND BE CARE-FUL NOT TO LET ANY FIN-GERS SLIP.
FIRST, STICK BOTH YOUR INDEX FINGERS UP.
???
THEN STICK YOUR FINGERS THROUGH THE OUT-SIDE.
I'M REALLY CURIOUS, BUT IT WOULD BE AWKWARD TO TURN AROUND
EVERYONE WOULD KNOW THAT I WAS A TERRIBLE GIRL WHO EAVESDROPS
AND THE 1024TH ANGEL, AMARYL-LIS
HERE'S THE 90TH ANGEL, GINGER ALE.
NO WAY.
OH! I SEE, I SEE!
THAT REALLY IS AN EASY-TO-FOLLOW EXPLANA-TION.
I'LL JUST NEED TO BEAR WITH IT! BEAR WITH IT!
I CAN'T EVER REMEMBER ENEMY NAMES.
THE ONLY ONE I CAN REMEM-BER...
YOU HAVE A GREAT MEMORY, MIKAGE.

...
YES, GENDO WAS ONE OF THE TOUGHEST ENEMIES.
AND YOU'RE JUST GOING TO GO ALONG WITH IT?!
GENDO WASN'T AN ENEMY!
ドコ
PLONK
...IS GENDO.

SUCH SLANDER!
H-HOW COULD YOU SAY THAT ABOUT HIS FATHER!
AND HE JUST COMES IN THERE AND MOWS DOWN THE MAIN CHARACTER AND ALL HIS FRIENDS.
AND HE HAS THAT CREEPY "BEH HEH HEH" LAUGH
WHEN HE GETS SERIOUS, HE GROWS SIX ARMS.
AND HE SPITS ONE TRILLION DEGREE FIRE.

NICE! GOOD GOING, CLASS REPRE-SENTA-TIVE!
THAT'S RIGHT, STOP MI-KAGE-KUN!
YEAH... WAIT, WHAT?
I-IS THAT REALLY HOW THE STORY WENT?
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE...
...WHO CAN STOP MIKAGE-KUN NOW THAT HE'S GONE BERSERK!
THAT'S HOW IT WENT.
GO! ATTACK!
YOU MUSTN'T RUN AWAY! YOU MUSTN'T RUN AWAY!
REALLY?
I'M REMEM-BERING IT A BIT DIFFER-ENTLY.
I'M SURE OF IT.
I RECENTLY MARA-THONED THE ENTIRE SERIES, SO I REMEM-BER.
THAT SHOW IS GREAT NO MATTER HOW OFTEN I WATCH IT.

NEON ARCHANGEL PRETTY ☆ GELION.
KER-BLAM
THAT'S NOT THE ANIME I WAS THINKING OF!
ENA-CHII!
ENA!
MARIPPE'S FORTUNE SAID I WAS TOTALLY IN FOR GOOD LUCK.
WHAT'S WRONG?
IT'S NOTHING.
A FEW DAYS LATER
MY HEAD-PHONES JUST...
...SUDDEN-LY BROKE ON THEIR OWN.
OH, ENA-CHAN, ARE YOU FEELING BETTER?
YUP! JUST KEEP PILING MORE WORK ON ME!
SPARKLE

English Digital Edition
Chapter 050.60

Takahashi-san is listening.
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Yu Hokuo

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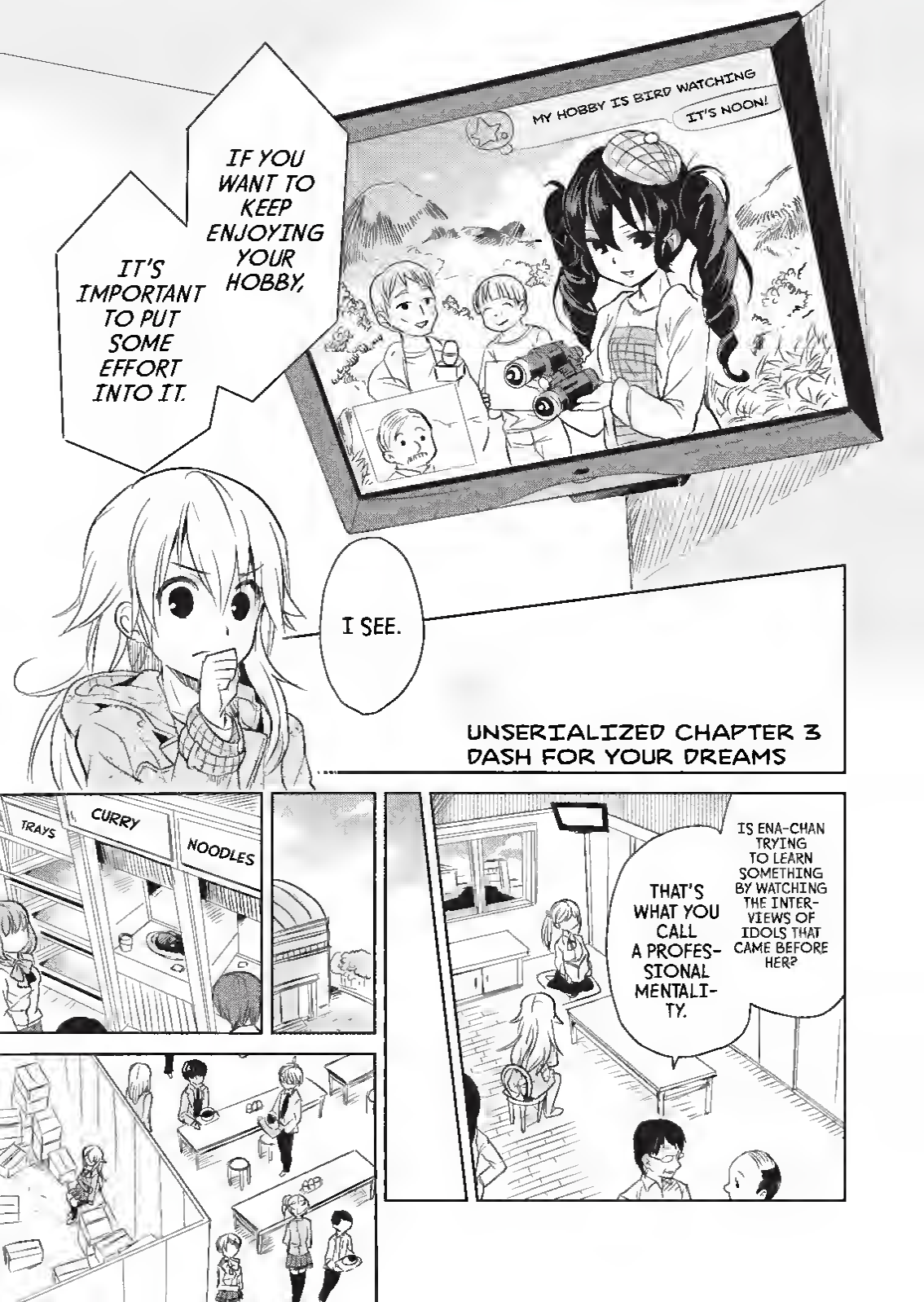
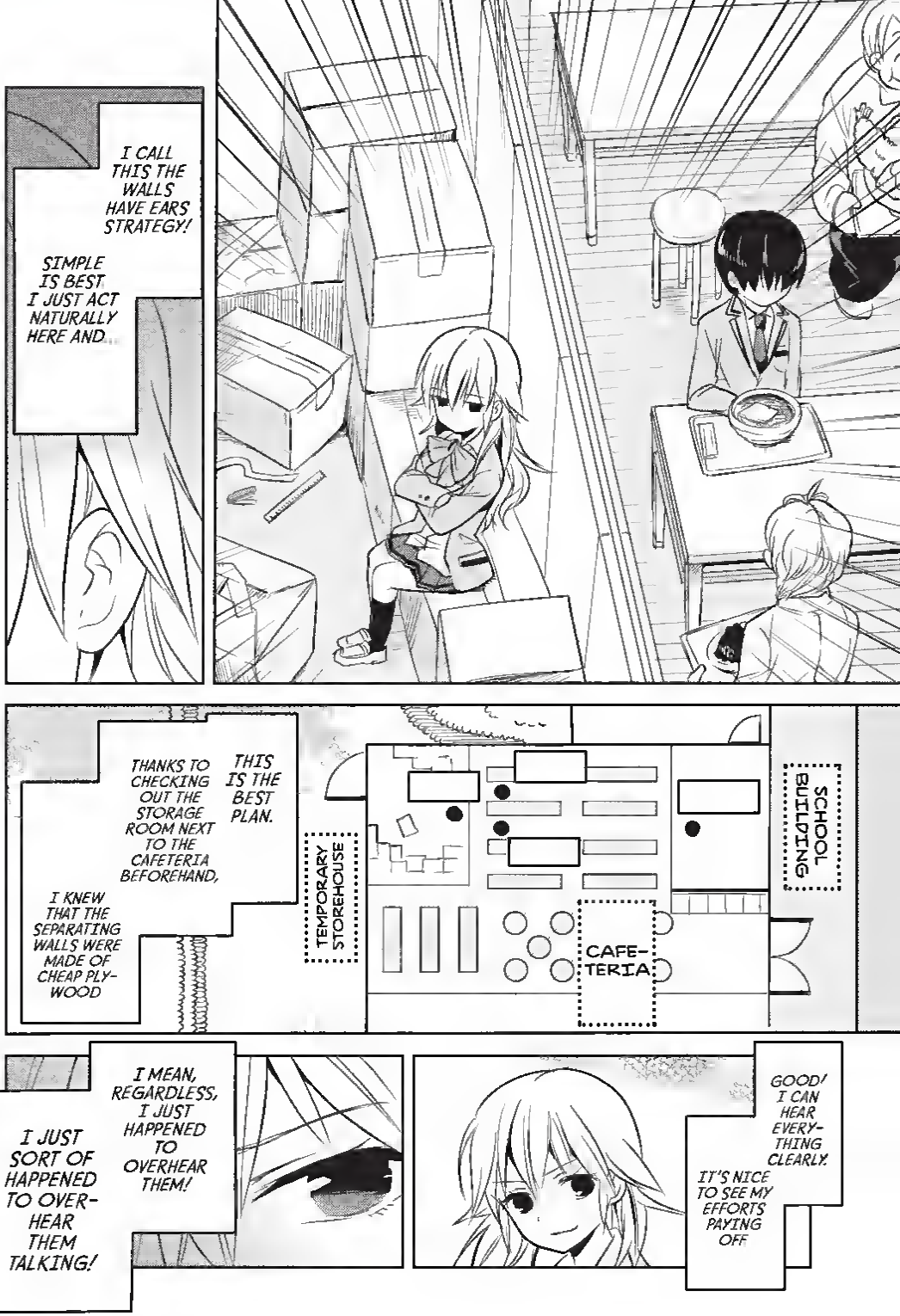
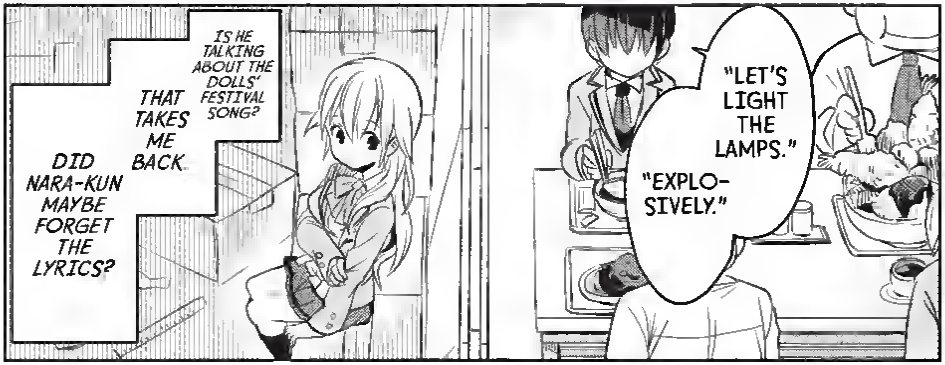
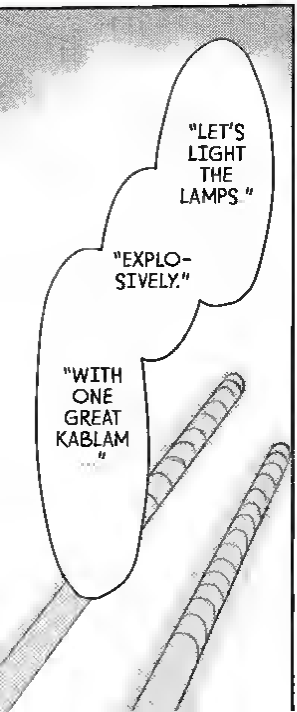
is listening.
高橋さんが聞いている。


IF YOU WANT TO KEEP ENJOYING YOUR HOBBY,
IT'S IMPORTANT TO PUT SOME EFFORT INTO IT.
MY HOBBY IS BIRD WATCHING
IT'S NOON!
I SEE.
UNSERIALIZED CHAPTER 3
DASH FOR YOUR DREAMS
TRAYS
CURRY
NOODLES
THAT'S WHAT YOU CALL A PROFESSIONAL MENTALITY.
IS ENA-CHAN TRYING TO LEARN SOMETHING BY WATCHING THE INTERVIEWS OF IDOLS THAT CAME BEFORE HER?


I CALL THIS THE WALLS HAVE EARS STRATEGY!
SIMPLE IS BEST I JUST ACT NATURALLY HERE AND...
THIS IS THE BEST PLAN.
THANKS TO CHECKING OUT THE STORAGE ROOM NEXT TO THE CAFETERIA BEFOREHAND,
I KNEW THAT THE SEPARATING WALLS WERE MADE OF CHEAP PLY-WOOD
TEMPORARY STOREHOUSE
CAFE-TERIA
SCHOOL BUILDING
I JUST SORT OF HAPPENED TO OVER-HEAR THEM TALKING!
I MEAN, REGARDLESS, I JUST HAPPENED TO OVERHEAR THEM!
GOOD! I CAN HEAR EVERY-THING CLEARLY.
IT'S NICE TO SEE MY EFFORTS PAYING OFF


"LET'S LIGHT THE LAMPS."
"EXPLO-SIVELY."
IS HE TALKING ABOUT THE DOLLS' FESTIVAL SONG?
THAT TAKES ME BACK.
DID NARA-KUN MAYBE FORGET THE LYRICS?

RIGHT, THAT'S HOW IT WENT!
THANKS, MIKAGE. I'M START-ING TO REMEMBER NOW.
BINGO! I'M STARTING TO GET A FEEL FOR THEIR CON-VERSATIONS.
I'M NOT BAD MYSELF!


"LET'S LIGHT THE LAMPS."
"EXPLO-SIVELY."
"WITH ONE GREAT KABLAM..."

WELL, LET'S SEE.
I THINK IT GOES ON LIKE THIS...
WHEN I WAS A CHILD, THERE WERE SPECIFIC PARODY LYRICS TO THE SONG.
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I DON'T KNOW WHAT MADE IT SO FUNNY.

"THE BIG BANG."
THERE'S NO WAY!
THE UNIVERSE DIDN'T BEGIN WITH SOME LITTLE EXPLOSION YOU STARTED.
ALSO, DON'T STARTLE THE DOLLS!
IT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO BE THIS WAY
I STRUCK A STRANGE POSE WITHOUT THINKING.
IT'S REALLY NICE THAT I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT BEING SEEN.
THA-THUMP
THA-THUMP
YEAH?
I SEE THE LYRICS CAN CHANGE QUITE A BIT BASED ON REGION
YOU'RE GOING TO PRETEND THAT'S COLLOQUIAL?
I JUST REMEMBERED.
WHERE I GREW UP, THE LYRICS WENT LIKE THIS...

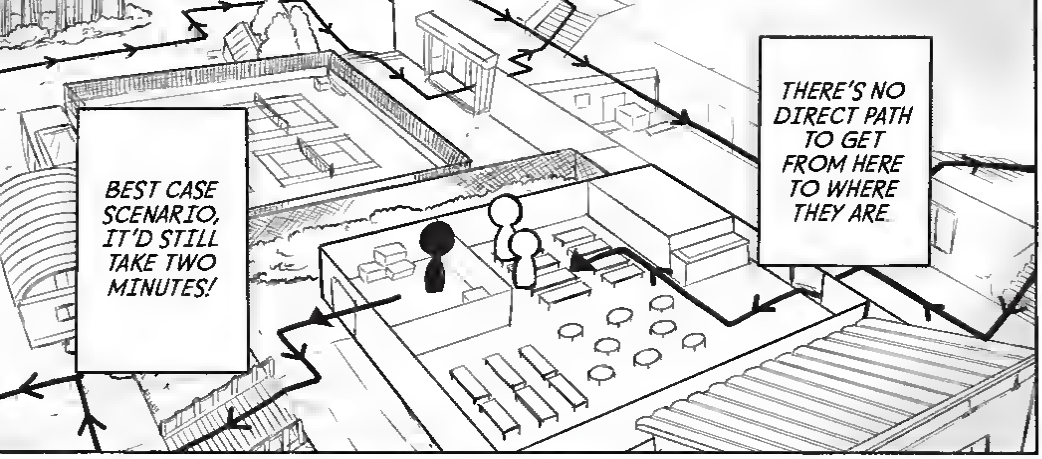
WHERE DID YOU GET THAT?
"WITH ONE GREAT KABLAM...
"EXILE."
"LET'S LIGHT THE LAMPS. EXPLOSIVELY."
THAT'S CERTAINLY TRUE.
IS IT?
I THINK THERE ARE LOTS OF EXILE FANS AROUND.
THAT'S PRETTY UNIQUE.
"IN JUST ONE MORE NIGHT..."
THE NEW YEAR'S ONE GOES LIKE THIS...
I KNOW ONE LIKE THAT.
...OR NEW YEAR'S SONGS
...LIKE ONES FOR JAPANESE FOLK-LORE...
I'M SURE THERE ARE A LOT MORE VERSIONS OUT THERE TOO...

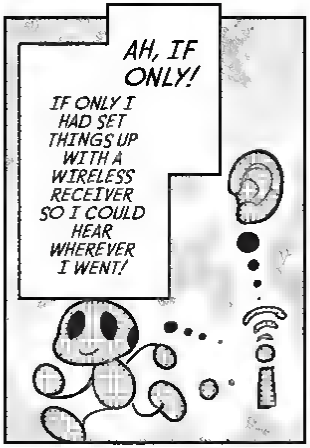
"BIG BANG."
AGAIN?!
THE BIRTH OF THE UNIVERSE EVERY YEAR?
EVEN THE TRILOBITES WOULD LOSE THEIR DRIVE!
I'M TIRED OF THIS WHOLE EVOLUTION THING
IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME, EVERY TIME.
EVERYTHING ENDS WITH THE BIG BANG WHERE YOU GREW UP, HUH?
THAT'S TRUE
WHEN WE PLAYED ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS, IT WAS ROCK-PAPER-BIG BANG
THAT BALANCE OF POWER IS COMPLETELY OFF.
SO PUTTING ASIDE JOKES. .
IT WAS ALL A JOKE?!

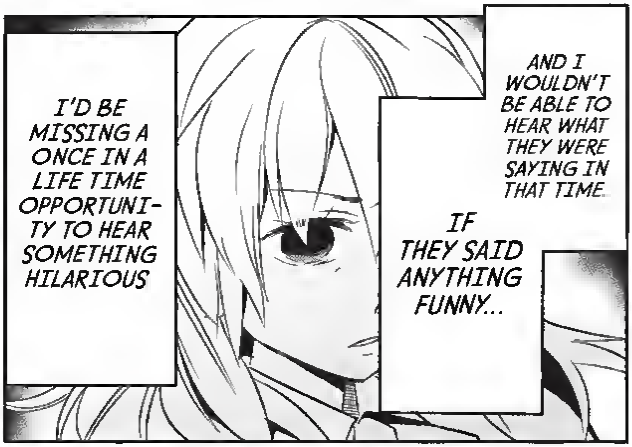
MY HOME-TOWN IS A NICE PLACE.
IF IT'S OF INTEREST TO YOU, I'D LIKE YOU TO COME VISIT.
I SEE. TOMOR-ROW'S THE BIG DAY.
...
HUH?
TAKE CARE OF YOUR-SELF.
YEAH.
W-WAIT A SECOND. MIKAGE-KUN?

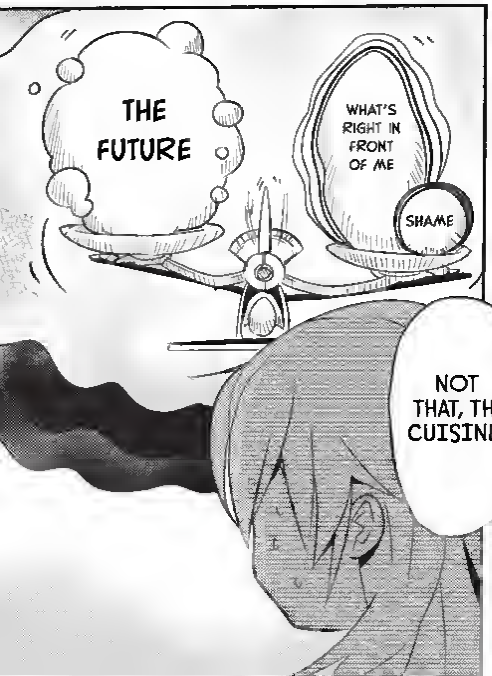
TODAY IS THE LAST DAY I GET TO ENJOY LISTENING IN ON YOU TWO?!
THAT WOULD MEAN...
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE TRANSFER-RING TO SOME FAR AWAY SCHOOL?

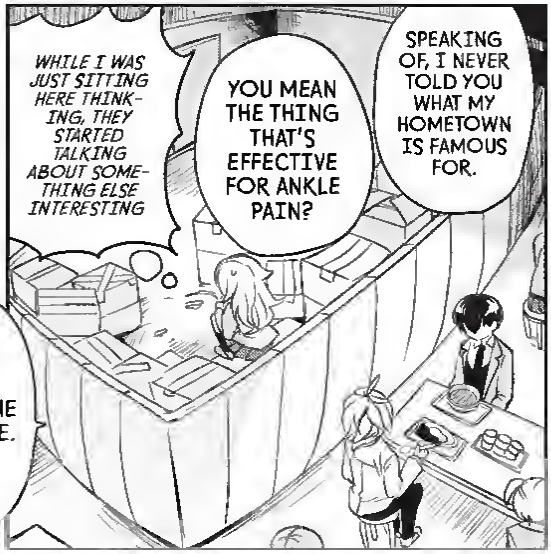
...AND TRIED TO GO OVER TO CONVINCE HIM TO STAY...
...I DECIDED TO FACE THE SHAME OF REVEALING MY SECRET...
E-EVEN IF...


BEST CASE SCENARIO, IT'D STILL TAKE TWO MINUTES!
THERE'S NO DIRECT PATH TO GET FROM HERE TO WHERE THEY ARE.


AH, IF ONLY!
IF ONLY I HAD SET THINGS UP WITH A WIRELESS RECEIVER SO I COULD HEAR WHEREVER I WENT!


I'D BE MISSING A ONCE IN A LIFE TIME OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR SOMETHING HILARIOUS
AND I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO HEAR WHAT THEY WERE SAYING IN THAT TIME.
IF THEY SAID ANYTHING FUNNY...


THE FUTURE
WHAT'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME
SHAME
NOT THAT, THE CUISINE.


WHILE I WAS JUST SITTING HERE THINKING, THEY STARTED TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE INTERESTING
YOU MEAN THE THING THAT'S EFFECTIVE FOR ANKLE PAIN?
SPEAKING OF, I NEVER TOLD YOU WHAT MY HOMETOWN IS FAMOUS FOR.

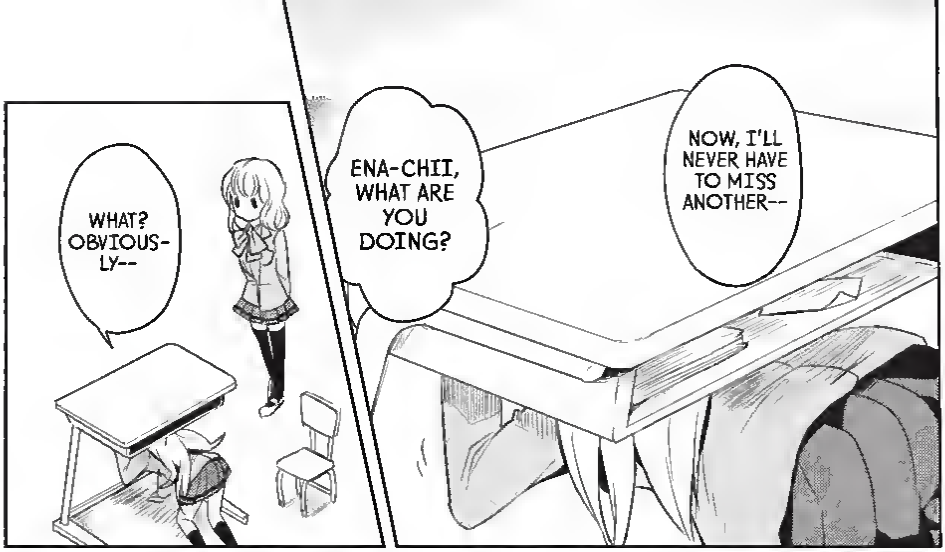
ENA-
CHII?

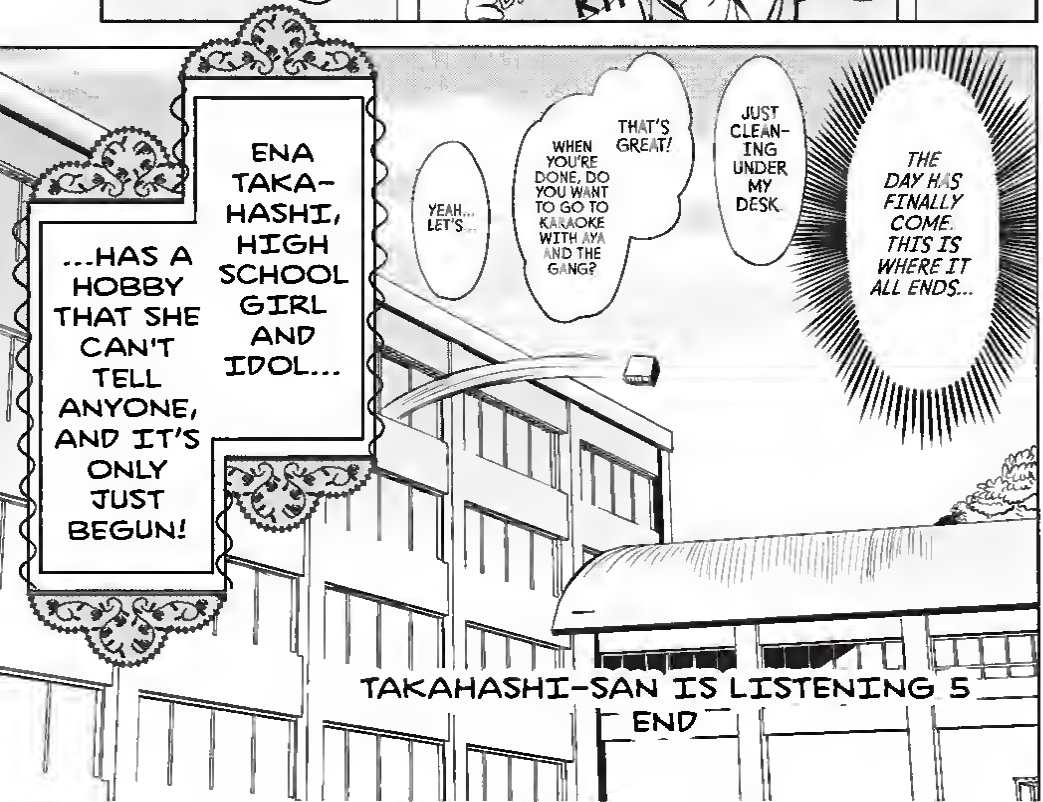
?!
スライド
SCREECH
SLIDE
BAM
ドン

I COMPLETELY MISSED THE MOST IMPORTANT PART!
I NEVER WOULD HAVE GUESSED THAT I WAS THE DARK MESSIAH...
I...
DID YOU WANT THE YAKISOBA BREAD THAT BADLY?
Y-Y-YOU DON'T NEED TO RUSH LIKE THAT.

B-BUT...
I JUST NEED TO REMEMBER THAT I'M PROTECTING MY FUTURE!
PUTTING MY FORTUNE ASIDE—
IS THE CROQUETTE REALLY THAT BAD?
WHAT WAS HIS HOMETOWN FAMOUS FOR?!
WHEN DID THEY START TALKING ABOUT FORTUNES?
WHAT KIND OF FORTUNE IS THAT?
PUNCH
THE FORTUNE FOR VIRGO NEXT MONTH IS THE DARK MESSIAH.
THAT'S HOW IT LOOKS.

I HOPE YOU HAVE A SAFE WEEKEND TRIP TO YOUR HOMETOWN.
I KIND OF SAW THAT COMING. I KNEW THAT WOULD BE THE PUNCHLINE.
NO NEED TO WORRY
I'VE ALREADY RUN A TRACK AND FIELD SIMULATION
IS THAT RIGHT?
ガタン
CLATTER
HEH.
I SHOULD HAVE DONE THIS TO BEGIN WITH.

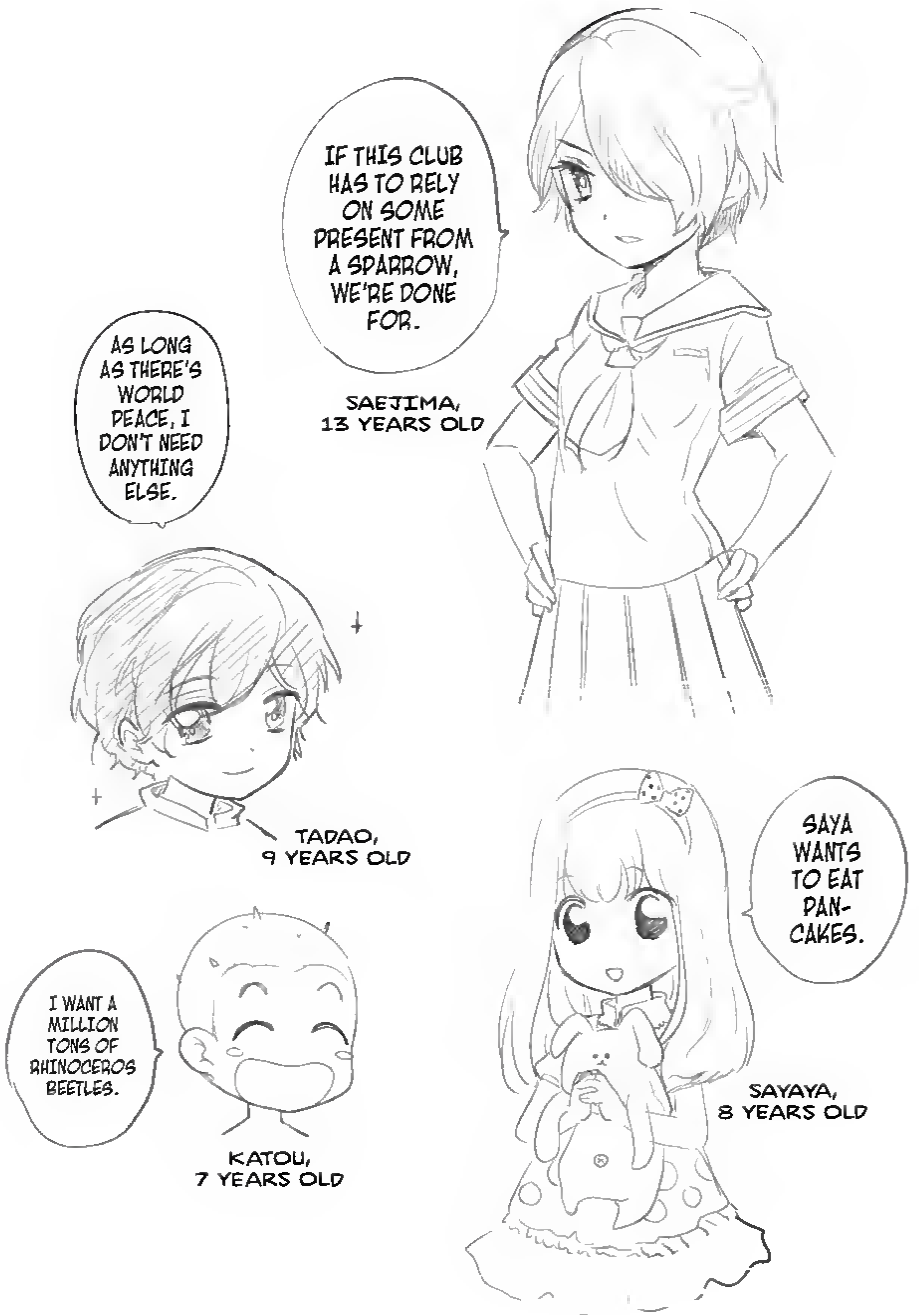


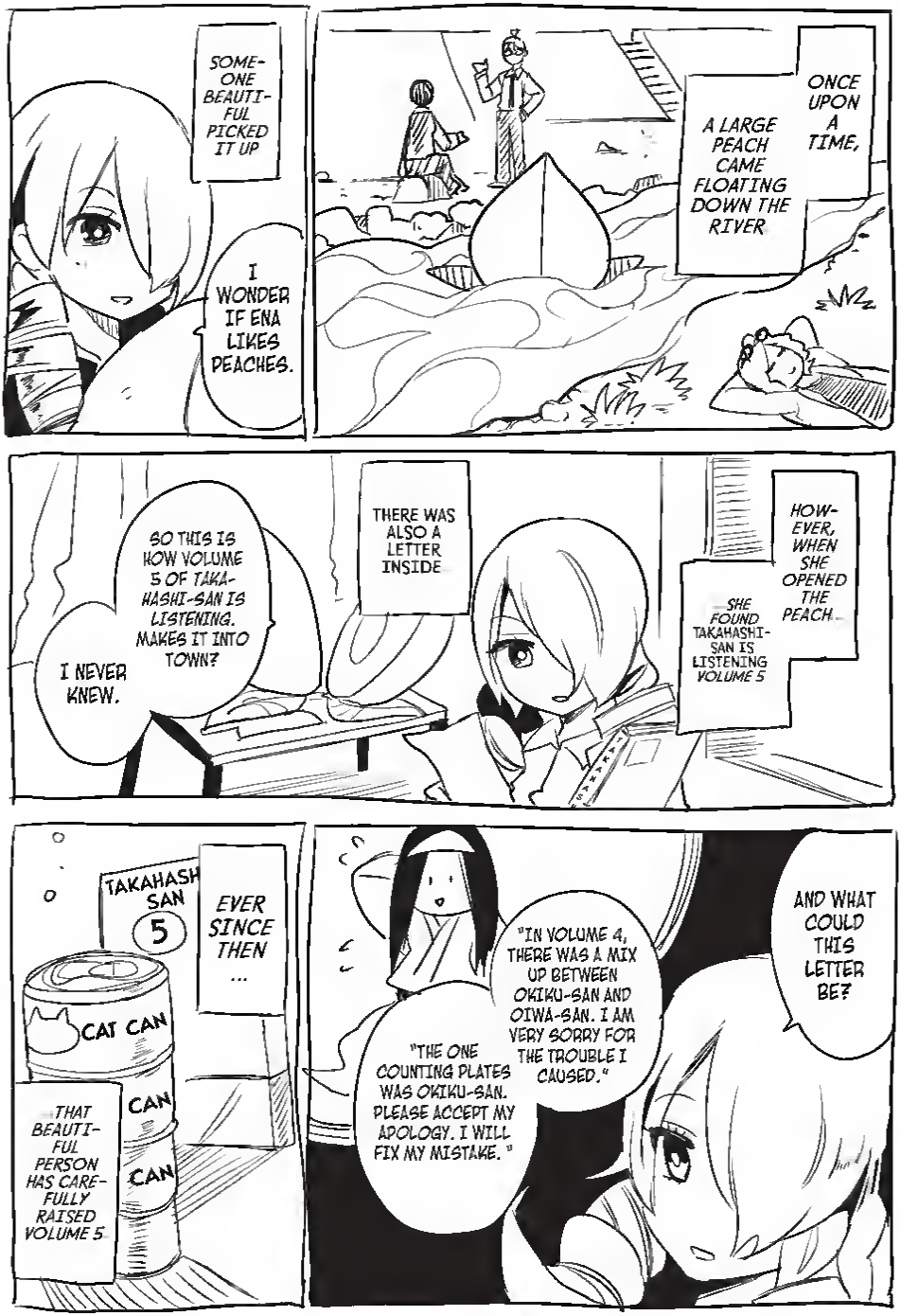

THE DAY HAS FINALLY COME. THIS IS WHERE IT ALL ENDS...
JUST CLEAN-ING UNDER MY DESK.
THAT'S GREAT!
WHEN YOU'RE DONE, DO YOU WANT TO GO TO KARAOKE WITH AYA AND THE GANG?
YEAH... LET'S...
ENA TAKA-HASHI, HIGH SCHOOL GIRL AND IDOL...
...HAS A HOBBY THAT SHE CAN'T TELL ANYONE, AND IT'S ONLY JUST BEGUN!

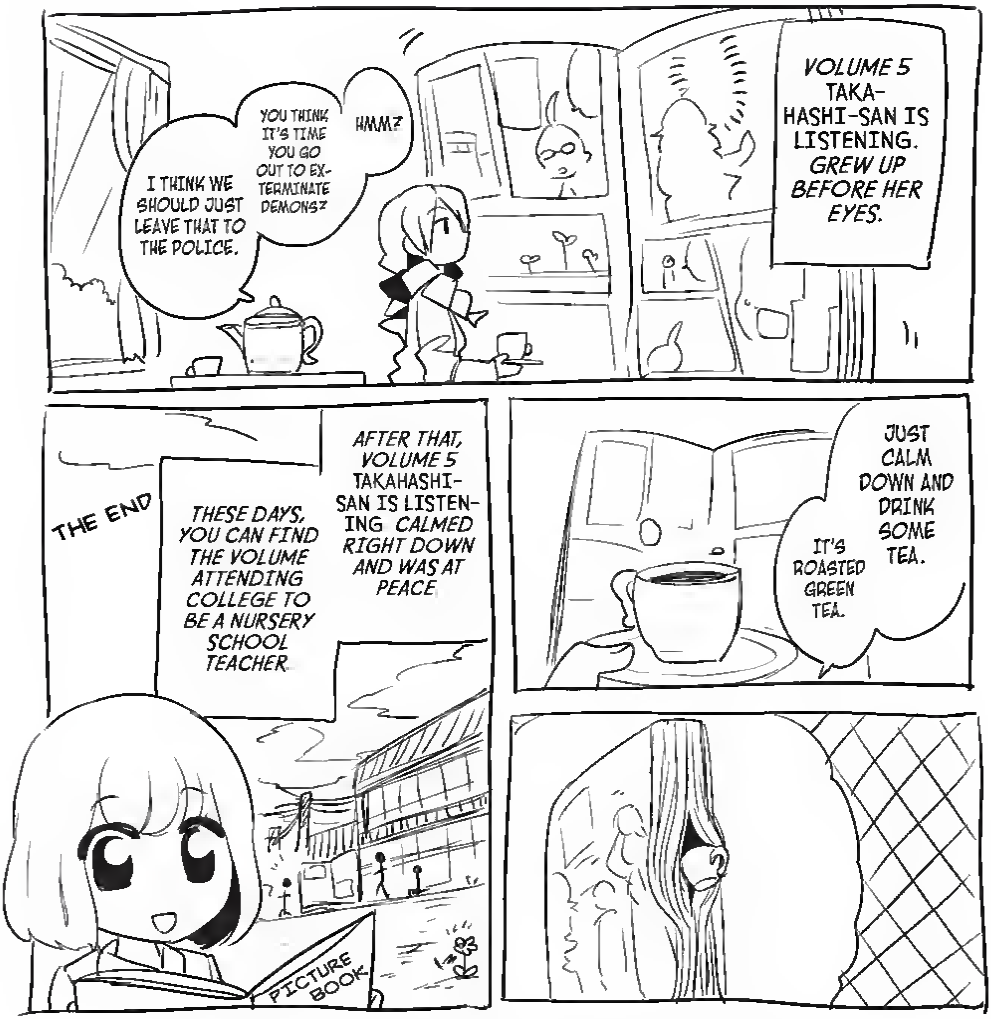
TAKAHASHI-SAN IS LISTENING 5

END

THE REST OF THE CAST


IF THIS CLUB HAS TO RELY ON SOME PRESENT FROM A SPARROW, WE'RE DONE FOR.
SAEJIMA, 13 YEARS OLD
AS LONG AS THERE'S WORLD PEACE, I DON'T NEED ANYTHING ELSE.
TADAO, 9 YEARS OLD
I WANT A MILLION TONS OF RHINOCEROS BEETLES.
KATOU, 7 YEARS OLD
SAYA WANTS TO EAT PAN-CAKES.
SAYAYA, 8 YEARS OLD


I WONDER IF ENA LIKES PEACHES.
SOMEONE BEAUTIFUL PICKED IT UP
ONCE UPON A TIME,
A LARGE PEACH CAME FLOATING DOWN THE RIVER
HOWEVER, WHEN SHE OPENED THE PEACH...
SHE FOUND TAKAHASHI-SAN IS LISTENING VOLUME 5
THERE WAS ALSO A LETTER INSIDE
SO THIS IS HOW VOLUME 5 OF TAKAHASHI-SAN IS LISTENING. MAKES IT INTO TOWN?
I NEVER KNEW.
EVER SINCE THEN ...
TAKAHASHI SAN 5
CAT CAN
CAN
CAN
...THAT BEAUTIFUL PERSON HAS CAREFULLY RAISED VOLUME 5
AND WHAT COULD THIS LETTER BE?
"IN VOLUME 4, THERE WAS A MIX UP BETWEEN OKIKU-SAN AND OIWA-SAN. I AM VERY SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE I CAUSED."
"THE ONE COUNTING PLATES WAS OKIKU-SAN. PLEASE ACCEPT MY APOLOGY. I WILL FIX MY MISTAKE."


VOLUME 5 TAKAHASHI-SAN IS LISTENING. GREW UP BEFORE HER EYES.
HMM?
YOU THINK IT'S TIME YOU GO OUT TO EXTERMINATE DEMONS?
I THINK WE SHOULD JUST LEAVE THAT TO THE POLICE.
JUST CALM DOWN AND DRINK SOME TEA.
IT'S ROASTED GREEN TEA.
AFTER THAT, VOLUME 5 TAKAHASHI-SAN IS LISTENING CALMED RIGHT DOWN AND WAS AT PEACE
THESE DAYS, YOU CAN FIND THE VOLUME ATTENDING COLLEGE TO BE A NURSERY SCHOOL TEACHER.
THE END
PICTURE BOOK

IT HASN'T BEEN LONG SINCE THE LAST VOLUME, BUT HELLO.

WE ALSO CONCURRENTLY RELEASED A CD DRAMA WITH THIS VOLUME. IT'S BEEN A GOOD ONE. I DREW THE BOOKLET THAT CAME WITH THE DRAMA CD, BUT I COULDN'T HAVE DONE ANY OF THE REST WITHOUT EVERYONE'S HELP. IT REALLY HAS BEEN A GOOD VOLUME.

IN FACT, THIS VOLUME OF *TAKAHASHI-SAN IS LISTENING.* WAS SO GOOD THAT I WAS SURE I WOULD FIND A NUMBER OF THEM IF I LOOKED THROUGH HISTORY. I WAS CERTAIN ONE OF THE FOUR GREAT CIVILIZATIONS OF THE WORLD WAS FIRST RESPONSIBLE FOR IT. HOWEVER, AFTER DOING SOME RESEARCH, I FOUND THAT VOLUME 5 IS A RECENT CREATION; IT'S ONLY BEEN IN PRODUCTION FOR A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME!

IT'S JUST A RUMOR, BUT I HEAR THE SAME IS TRUE FOR VOLUME 6. HOW IN THE WORLD IS VOLUME 6 GOING TO END UP? I HOPE YOU LOOK FORWARD TO IT. I'LL BE OVERJOYED IF I CAN SEE YOU ALL AGAIN THEN.

-YU HOKUO

Takahashi-san
is listening.
高橋さんが聞いている。

NEXT VOLUME PREVIEW

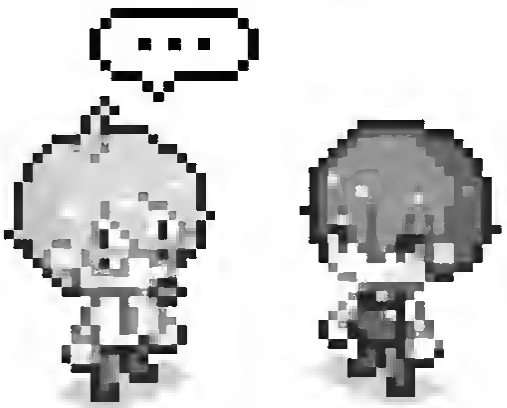
TAKAHASHI-SAN IS LISTENING.

VOLUME 6 WILL BE RELEASED

IN THE FALL OF 2015.

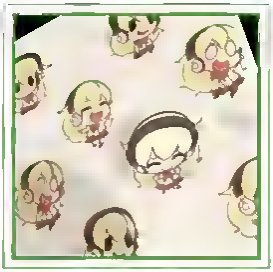
SEE YOU THEN!

COMING SOON...



COMING SOON...

COVER FLAP



北欧ゆう Yu Hokuo

WE'RE ON VOLUME 5. I'M SO SURPRISED I'VE MADE IT THIS FAR! BUDDHISM TALKS ABOUT THE IMPERMANENCE OF ALL THINGS, BUT RIGHT NOW I FEEL AS THOUGH EVEN THE BELL ON TOP OF JETAVANA IS TELLING ME, "IT'S NOT THE IMPERMANENCE OF ALL THINGS! IT'S THE PERMANENCE OF ALL THINGS! PERMANENCE! PER-MAN-ENCE!" SO I'VE DECIDED TO TAKE A MORE POSITIVE OUTLOOK ON LIFE. I ENCOURAGE YOU ALL TO DO THE SAME. WHETHER AT SCHOOL OR AT WORK, IF SOMEONE SAYS TO YOU, "DECADENCE!" YOU SAY "PERMANENCE!" RIGHT BACK AT THEM. THOUGH I GUESS PEOPLE DON'T SAY DECADENCE ANYWAY.

※ AUTHOR COMMENT AS SEEN IN FIRST RELEASE OF COMIC

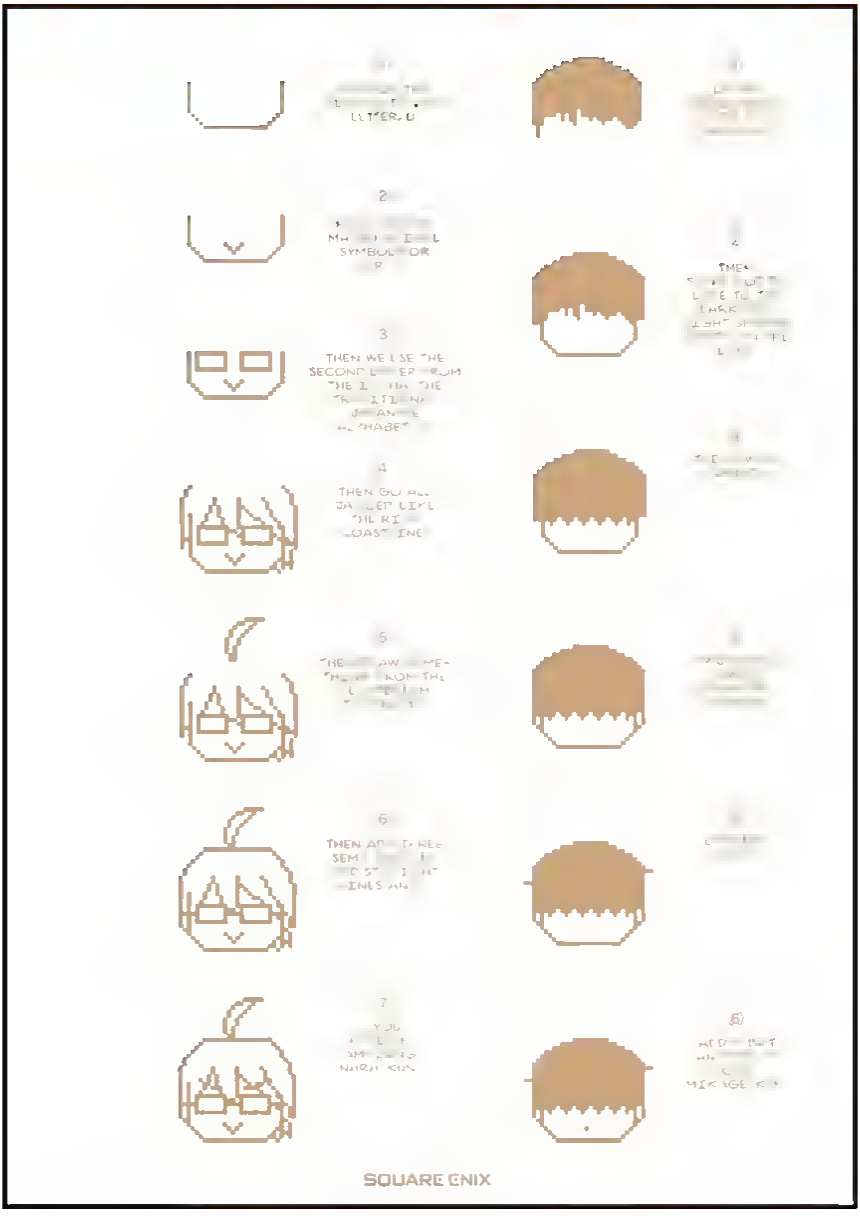
FRONT INNER COVER

THE ENA-CHII DRAW SONG

1) FIRST YOU DRAW A BOWL
2 THEN TOSS SOME KAMABOKO SLICES AROUND SOMEWHERE
3) AND THEN TWO BLACK HOLES MAKE THEIR APPEARANCE~
4 THEN HANG SOME SIGN CURTAINS ALL OVER THE PLACE~
5 I SEE A RAINBOW EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE GONE NOW
6 AND NOW WE HAVE TWO PIECES OF SEAWEED
7 THEN A BUNCH OF STUFF POPS UP
8 AND BEFORE YOU KNOW IT IT'S ENA-CHII

※ILLUSTRATION AS SEEN IN FIRST RELEASE OF COMIC

BACK INNER COVER



※ILLUSTRATION AS SEEN IN FIRST RELEASE OF COMIC

FRONT COVER

※COVER AS SEEN IN FIRST RELEASE OF COMIC

BACK COVER

ALL THOSE JUST FOR CURRY!
I'M JUST CRYING OVER HOW SHORT AND TRANS-ITORY THEIR LIVES ARE
THIS ISN'T BECAUSE I GOT ONION IN MY EYES AND IT STINGS
CURRY

※COVER AS SEEN IN FIRST RELEASE OF COMIC

English Digital Edition
Chapter 050.80

Takahashi-san is listening.
高橋さんが聞いている。
Yu Hokuo

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